



THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • FRIDAY • APRIL 07, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 38 • LATE CITY EDITION



GOVT'S NEW ONLINE GAMING RULES PROHIBIT BETTING AND WAGERING

The Centre on Thursday released new rules for online gaming, which entail a framework of multiple self-regulatory organisations (SROs)

MULTIPLE SROs TO DETERMINE PERMISSIBILITY

"We are dealing with a framework which allows for all online gaming to be determined as permissible or not, by an SRO and there will be multiple SROs," Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar said while releasing final guidelines for online gaming on Thursday. He said permissibility will be determined with the simple principle of whether wagering is involved

INDEPENDENT BODY TO FLAG FALSE INFO

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology will notify an entity that will flag false info posted online pertaining to government
- "SRO will be an independent body. We are starting with three SROs. If there is a need for more, we will go for it," Chandrasekhar said
- Online games that collect money will need to complete KYC norms

\$2.5 billion

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN INDIA'S ONLINE GAMING MARKET AS OF DEC 2022

4-member panel to look into pension of govt staff

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

WITH government employees renewing their agitation for restoration of the Old Pension Scheme and the same becoming a political issue ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the Centre has formed a four-member panel to address their grievances about the New Pension System (NPS).

The committee will look into the need for changes in the existing framework of the NPS, and suggest changes keeping in mind the fiscal implications and budgetary constraints. It may also consult with state governments before arriving at any recommendations.

According to the Centre, NPS is fiscally more prudent.

The four-member panel will be headed by finance secretary T V Somanathan. Chairman of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority; secretary, Ministry of Personnel; and special secretary (personnel), Dept of Expenditure will be the other members.

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman had recently told Parliament that a committee under the Union finance secretary would be formed.

The move comes at a time when government employees, including in states governed by the BJP, have launched agitation in favour of restoration of the Old Pension System.



WHY OLD IS GOLD

Under the old pension scheme, also called the defined benefit pension, bulk of the contribution towards pension accounts comes from the government. In the New Pension Scheme, the pension amount is decided based on contribution of the employees

It's a pause and not a pivot... We stand ready to act appropriately and in time

- RBI governor Shaktikanta Das



Surprise move: RBI keeps key rate unchanged

Relief to borrowers as central bank maintains status quo on rate after 6 back-to-back hikes

HAWKISH PAUSE

Most analysts had expected one final 25 bps hike before hitting a pause, but RBI chose status quo

RBI also decided to maintain its stance of 'withdrawal of accommodation' against market expectation of shifting to a 'neutral stance'

Central bank upped its forecast of India's GDP growth in FY24 to 6.5% from 6.4% projected earlier

It also lowered inflation forecast to 5.2% for 2023-24 from 5.3%

RBI to allow pre-sanctioned credit lines at banks via UPI

It will set up a portal to search across multiple banks for unclaimed deposits

Next meeting of RBI's monetary policy committee scheduled for June 6-8

SACHIN KUMAR @ Mumbai

IN a surprise move, the Reserve Bank of India on Thursday decided to leave its key repo rate unchanged, giving the much-needed relief to home loan borrowers struggling with back-to-back increases in their EMIs.

Repo is the rate at which RBI lends money to commercial banks.

The decision, defying forecasts of a 25 bps hike before hitting the pause button, was taken unanimously by RBI's six-member Monetary Policy Committee headed by governor Shaktikanta Das. With this, the repurchase or repo rate remains unchanged at 6.5%.

The expected fall in inflation in the coming months due to previous rate hikes and concerns about the impact of global financial turmoil on the domestic economy have influenced RBI's decision to leave the rate unchanged.

However, the relief for borrowers could be temporary as the central bank unequivocally clarified that its battle against inflation is not over and it will raise rate again, if needed.

"Our job is not yet finished and the war against inflation has to continue until we see a durable decline in inflation closer to the target," said Das while unveiling the first bi-monthly monetary policy of 2023-24.

Middle-class borrowers have been the collateral damage in the banking regulator's war against inflation. To tame price hike, the central bank has hiked the repo rate six times in the past 11 months. As a result of 250 bps increase in the key rate since May 2022, EMIs of home loan borrowers have also inched up.

Any hike in repo rate increases EMIs of existing borrowers and makes new consumer loans costlier as banks usually pass on the high cost of funds to borrowers.

While RBI said it remains cautious about the inflation outlook, it is relatively upbeat on growth. It marginally raised its forecast of GDP growth in the current fiscal year to 6.5% from 6.4% projected earlier. This compares with an expected 7% growth in 2022-23.

Don't be complacent: Modi to party workers

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday cautioned the BJP not to be complacent ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls while addressing the cadre live at over 10 lakh places to mark the party's 44th Foundation Day.

"We should not be confined to winning polls. Our goal is to win over the hearts of crores of people. We have to fight every poll with the same hard work that we have put in since the time of Jana Sangh," he said.

Modi reiterated that the BJP was committed to taking tough steps to rid India of corruption,

nepotism, dynasty and regionalism in the larger interest of the nation.

"They (Opposition leaders) have become so desperate that they have openly started saying Modi teri kabir khudegi (your grave will be dug). They would continue to conspire against us. But they don't know that the poor, the deprived, the SCs, tribals and other disadvantaged people are protecting and making the Lotus bloom in the elections," he said.

On Lord Hanuman, the PM said the BJP gets its inspiration from Him and his 'can-do' attitude. "Today India has realised its potential just like Lord Hanuman after eliminating



self-doubts," Modi said while comparing the present situation to how it was nine years ago.

The BJP, he said, was leading a new political culture in the country while the culture of Congress and other parties was family-centric, driven by nepo-

tism and caste-based culture in politics. "The culture of Congress and other such parties is to think small and feel happy by achieving even less than that. They are happy in patting each other on the back, while BJP's political culture is to dream big and work hard to achieve it," he said.

Modi said people in 2014 had not only changed the government but also heralded a new journey of the country's renaissance. "Now, India as a nation has risen again to regain its lost glory," he added.

The Opposition, he said, is facing an existential crisis and levelling allegations and hatching plots against the BJP.

UNION BUDGET SESSION OVER, SIXTH SHORTEST SINCE 1952

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE tumultuous Budget session of Parliament that concluded on Thursday was the sixth shortest in India since 1952. From the disqualification of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi from the Lok Sabha and the BJP's demand for his apology for his 'democracy under siege' comment in London to the unrelenting Opposition pressure for a JPC probe into the Adani row and a fresh pitch for Opposition unity, the washed-out session was otherwise eventful.

Speaking to this newspaper, Chakshu Roy, Head of Outreach at PRS Legislative Research, said in the second half, the Lok Sabha worked only for 5% and the Rajya Sabha for 6% of the scheduled time, making it the sixth shortest Budget session since 1952. "This session also saw the least amount of time



Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge with fellow Opposition MPs taking out a Tiranga March from Parliament House to Vijay Chowk on Thursday | SHEKHAR YADAV

spent on questions in the current Lok Sabha and only about 7% of starred questions were answered in either House," said Roy. In all, the 17th Lok Sabha has functioned for 230 days so far, with 25 days (10 in the first part and 15 in the second) dedicated to the 2023 Budget session. Overall, the Lok Sabha functioned for 33% of its scheduled time (46 hours) and the Ra-

jya Sabha for 24% (32 hours). "Disruptions have a larger cost than just the taxpayers' money. The real cost is that of not debating laws and discussing issues that impact the entire country," Roy said. Even before Rahul was disqualified, BJP member Nishikant Dubey had moved a privilege motion and sought a panel to expel him for his remarks. P9

'Unstable' youth kills 85-year-old woman, rapes her

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hassan

A gruesome incident of a 30-year-old unmarried man raping a 85-year-old woman after murdering her has been reported from Yerehalli village in Arasikere taluk. Hariram Shankar, SP, said the incident occurred recently. The accused Mithun Kumar and his mother were working in a field when they saw the victim, a resident of Madalu village, walking on the wrong road to her house. At this juncture, the accused's mother told him to drop her home on his motorcycle.

Mithun, who made the victim sit on his motorcycle, took her to a nearby field and attempted to molest her. When she resisted, the accused hit her forehead with a stone, killing her. He then allegedly raped the victim, the SP said.

He said one of the villagers stated that Mithun was caught when he allegedly attempted to rape an elderly woman a few years ago. But the villagers resolved the matter after warning him. The police suspect he is mentally unstable. Mithun narrated the incident without any hesitation and he "behaves like a child", police said.

Turncoats get place in Cong's 2nd list

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Congress has accommodated all turncoats in its second list of 40 candidates for the May 10 Assembly elections. The party released its second list here on Thursday.

The suspense over Kolar constituency continues.

As expected Baburao Chinchansur, who played a key role in defeating AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge in LS polls in Kalaburagi, and former Kudligi MLA NY Gopalakrishna, have been given Gurumitkal and Molakalmuru tickets, respectively.

JDS leaders - former Gubbi MLA SR Srinivas, BL Devaraj from KR Pete in Man-

dya district and Siddegowda from Chamundeshwari, cinestar Doddanna's son-in-law KC Veerendra (Pappy) from the Lingayat community from Chitradurga, have been given tickets.

Former BJP MLA VS Patil has been given ticket for Yellapur seat in Uttara Kannada. Only exception that a turncoat missed the ticket is YSV Datta of Kadur, who had joined the Congress from JDS. The party has cleared Anand KS. Badami seat has been declared for former MLA BB Chimmankatt's son Bheemasen B Chimmankatti.

Former minister Vinay

Kulkarni has been cleared for Dharwad. Former CM N Dham Singh's elder son Vijay Dham Singh has been given ticket for Basavakalyan. His younger brother Ajay Dham Singh will contest from Jewargi. Former ministers Kimmane Ratnakar (Tirthahalli) and H Anjaneya (Holalkere) are on the list. Interestingly, Manthar Gowda will contest from Madikeri.

In Bengaluru, Congress has given tickets to V Raghu-nath Naidu (Padmanabha Nagar), Keshavamurthy (Mahalakshmi Layout), S Balaraj Gowda (Yeshwantpur) and Keshavraj (Yelahanka).

There was a buzz that BJP

Setback to BJP as Puttur MLA's sleaze pictures go viral

VINCENT D'SOUZA @ Mangaluru

IN a major embarrassment to BJP, purported sleaze pictures of Sanjeeva Matandoor, BJP MLA from Puttur in Dakshina Kannada, have gone viral on social media.

However, the MLA said he has nothing to do with the pictures and the woman in them.

Meanwhile, the woman lodged a complaint at the Upinangady police station on Wednesday night seeking action against those who had up-

loaded the pictures on social media. Without mentioning the MLA's name in her complaint, she said the pictures have been doctored and intended to defame her. A senior police officer said that a case under Sections 454(A) and 509 of IPC and 67(A) of IT Act has been registered.

Meanwhile, Matandoor has also filed a complaint with the cyber police in Bengaluru.

With elections fast approaching, this development is seen as a big setback for BJP

in general and Matandoor in particular. There was anger against him in Puttur after he made some distasteful remarks against a Hindutva leader just before Union Home Minister Amit Shah's visit to Puttur in February. BJP workers had taken him to task over the matter. He was also under attack over the murder of BJP worker Praveen Nettaru last year.

There was a buzz that BJP

may not give him ticket this time. A worried Matandoor was said to have knocked on the doors of prominent religious seers of the Vokkaliga community to which he belongs to lobby for a ticket.

When contacted, he said the pictures have been doctored and intended to malign him ahead of the polls. "It is a conspiracy against me and the whole incident is politically motivated," he added.

It is a conspiracy against me and the whole incident is politically motivated



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TO BOOST TURNOUT, HOTELS, HOSPs TO SEND STAFF TO VOTE

Assns welcome move; city saw 55.54% voting in last Assembly polls

2018 ASSEMBLY POLL PERCENTAGE

51%
BENGALURU CENTRAL

49%
BENGALURU NORTH & SOUTH

51%
BENGALURU URBAN



We will ask our staff, those who have their polling booths close to hospitals and nursing homes, to go and vote on the polling day and also encourage attendants of patients to do the same

Dr Govindaiah Yateesh, president of Private Hospitals and Nursing Home Association

MOHAMMED YACOUB @Bengaluru

THE hospitality and healthcare sectors employ a sizeable number of voters, but they are not given the time to exercise their franchise most of the time citing tight work schedules.

Now, to ensure a high voter turnout percentage, the District Election Officer and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath has taken steps to ensure that employees in these sectors cast their votes on the polling day.

Girinath has tasked BBMP Special Commissioner (Health) Dr K V Thirlok Chandra to direct all associations in these sectors to communicate to their members – hospitals, clinics, hotels and restaurants – to allow their staffers to go out on the polling day and cast their vote.

Dr Chandra told The New Indian Express that directions will be given to all hospitals, clinics, hotels and restaurants to participate in the electoral process. “The heads of the institutions will be told to ask their employees to come and vote, and also take measures to facilitate the staffers to exercise their voting power,” he said.

Girinath has already held meetings with Residential Wel-

fare Associations (RWAs) and meetings with heads from the industry sector are being lined up to create awareness on voting and on increasing the polling percentage.

This initiative was launched as in the last Assembly election, the city, comprising four segments, reported just 55.54 per cent voting. According to the data, the polling percentage in Bengaluru Central parliamentary district was 51 per cent, Bengaluru North and South was 49, respectively, and Bengaluru Urban 51 per cent.

Welcoming the move, P C Rao, president of Bruhat Bengaluru Hotels and Restaurants Association, said, “We will definitely ask our staff and customers to go and cast their votes.”

Dr Govindaiah Yateesh, president of Private Hospitals and Nursing Home Association also lauded the move. He noted that no organisation can prevent a person from voting as it can lead to criminal proceedings. “We will ask our staff, those who have their polling booths close to hospitals and nursing homes, to go and vote on the polling day and also encourage attendants of patients to do the same,” said Yateesh.

Revision of voters' list an ongoing process: HC

ENS @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court has upheld the contention of the Election Commission of India (ECI) that the voters' list does not freeze on the date of its publication, but is an ongoing process till the last date of filing of nomination as inclusion and exclusion of names will take place in the voters' list.

Justice M Nagaprasanna passed the order while rejecting the petition filed by Shivajinagar Congress MLA Rizwan Arshad and 20 others questioning the publication of a list of Absentee, Shifted and Dead (ASD) of the constituency by the ECI in newspapers, in furtherance of the order passed by the court after several booth-level agents pointed out irregularities in the preparation of the list in two constituencies - Shivajinagar and Shanthinagar.

“What will unmistakably emerge from Section 23 of the Representation of the People Act is a person whose name is left out can always submit for inclusion of his name before the Registration Officer up to the last date of making nominations in a particular constituency and such transposition, deletion or amendment to the electoral roll can take place. What is necessary is strict adherence to the procedure,” the court said.

Arshad was one of those who were issued notice for shift of residence. Making that as the foundation of the petition, Arshad knocked on the doors of the court contending that once the electoral roll is finalised, there can be no change in the voters' list.



A man douses the fire that damaged two-wheelers near Dharmarayaswamy Temple in Tigalarpet on Thursday. (Right) Devotees at Karaga festival | KPN, VINOD KUMAR T

10 bikes damaged in Karaga fire accident

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A major fire mishap was averted by alert citizens as many two-wheelers and an auto that were parked on the road next to Dharmarayaswamy temple were partially damaged in fire from the camphor that was lit as part of the Karaga festival on Thursday morning. Hundreds of devotees had lit camphor on the main roads next to the temple in Tigalarpet.

Members of the Bengaluru Karaga Samiti said despite sev-

eral announcements, people had parked vehicles on the roadside adjacent to Dharmarayaswamy temple. When devotees lit the camphor, the flames were so hot that it partially melted nearly 10 vehicles parked close by.

Samiti members said it is a regular practice that devotees coming to the temple light camphor. Devotees were seen lining up camphor up to a stretch of over 500 metres from NR Signal to the temple and lighting them on fire. Around 10 two-wheelers and an auto that was parked on

the road, which came in contact with the fire, were partially damaged.

No police complaints were registered and no fire tenders were pressed into service. Locals swung into action, took waterpumps from nearby buildings and immediately doused the fire. While the fire was doused quickly, devotees said two huge blocks of camphor weighing more than 30 kg were placed over ice blocks and lit.

The smoke emanating from the camphor gave the impression to the people that the

fire was still raging. Bengaluru's historical Karaga procession started from Dharmarayaswamy Temple at Tigalarpet around 12.30 am on Friday. Earlier in the day, special Ganga puja was performed for Goddess Draupadi at the Karagad Kunte of Cubbon Park, which was followed by puja at the Dharmarayaswamy Temple. Thousands of devotees took part in the Karaga celebration. As part of the Karaga procession, the city was decked up with lights and ‘prasadam’ were offered at many places.

MANIPAL ACADEMY HOSTS LIT FEST

Bengaluru: Padma Shri Ganesh Devy on Thursday said the historical process of the formation of a nation is vastly different to that of the formation of a city. “The historical process of the formation of nations – the nation as a political institution – is very different from the historical process of the formation of a city as a sociological institution. The nation is an expression of the human race to bring many under a single and well-defined space. The city, on the other hand, is the expression of the desire to bring one into many chronological orders,” said the renowned literary critic, who is also the founder of the People's Linguistic Survey of India. He was speaking at the inauguration of the three-day annual literature festival hosted by the Manipal Academy of Higher Education on Thursday. The festival – Manipal International Literature and Art Platform (m.i.l.a.p) – will feature several masterclasses, panel discussions, workshops and film screenings. **ENS**

Sankey stir: Citizens seek probe over FIR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

AFTER taking up a signature campaign for over two days against the FIR registered against citizens for protests over the Sankey Road widening and flyover project, members of various resident welfare organisations and others met City Police Commissioner Pratap Reddy on Wednesday and demanded that the case be closed.

In a letter submitted submitted to the police commissioner,

the citizens strongly objected to the filing of criminal charges against citizens and organisations, calling the FIR “arbitrary, baseless, unfair”. “The FIR serves to create a chilling environment in the city that is known for active participation of citizens. It is a violation of our constitutional right of freedom to speech and expression, peaceful assembly and our right to life,” they said.

The letter, supported by 70 organisations, read, “We demand that the baseless allegations

against the citizens be withdrawn and the case be closed immediately. We request an inquiry be initiated into the abuse of law in this case. We have a right to a sustainable future. We owe it to our children to leave behind a healthy city. Actions such as a silent walk harm no one, violate no laws, and in fact work to deepen our democracy (sic).”

Reddy told the delegation that the case has been transferred to the Halasuru police station to get an unbiased view.

FEE HIKE

Pvt school forum backs parents

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Private School Managements, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff Co-ordination Committee (KPMTCC) has extended its support to parents in light of complaints on private schools hiking fees.

At a press conference on Thursday, the association offered their aid to parents to lodge complaint against schools which increase fees to an unreasonable level. “We are grateful that the court has ruled that the government should not interfere with the freedom of schools on managing their affairs. This freedom comes with a lot of responsibilities. Most schools understand this and appreciate the responsibilities reposed on them. As it happens always, a few unscrupulous elements misuse the freedom and bring a bad name to the entire community of schools. We cannot just standby and let parents be unreasonably put to hardship,” said Shashikumar S, KPMTCC convenor.

“If parents are having trouble with such issues, they have all the right to raise them and bring this to our notice too,” it stated.

Civic woes dominate FinMin's meet with residents

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

PROBLEMS faced by apartment owners and civic woes dominated the agenda at the interaction with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday.

Sitharaman was in the city to interact with Resident Welfare Associations (RWA), apartment

dwellers, women entrepreneurs, chartered accountants and bankers to collect their feedback for drafting of the BJP's election manifesto.

Vikram Rai of Bangalore Apartments Federation said, “We urge the implementation of the Karnataka Apartment Ownership Act, 1972, by amending the Karnataka Registration Rules, 1965, the Karnataka

Apartment Rules, 1974, and other rules to ensure that the whole property – the apartment units, all assets and land on which these are built – are conveyed to the group of owners.”

Residents complained that there is a lack of coordination among different civic bodies, saying that they are forced to bribe officials even for petty works. They demanded setting up of an

empowered competent authority to address their problems and wanted clarity in grey areas in RERA. They urged the FM that the GST levied on the maintenance charges paid by them to the RWAs be exempted.

Sitharaman said she will convene a meeting with the Union Urban Development Ministry if something can be done regarding the problems.



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman along with entrepreneurs, chartered accountants and bankers in Bengaluru on Thursday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

07th April: The Moon is changing its position again, this time from one which deals with practical concerns to one which is deeply idealistic and self-motivated. It's not that one is superior to the other; just that each represents a necessary stage in the Moon's mythical journey.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)

The Moon is bringing one cycle to a close and inaugurating a new one. It's therefore a vital moment for considering past failures and successes, and working out how you can do better in the future. You never know - you might actually receive the rewards you have worked for!

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)

You will reconsider the virtues of one particular emotional connection, but now may be the last time to take decisions about the future - at least until next week! At work, impulsive actions could be your downfall. So think first, act later, and take care of essential details.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

It's time for passion and, if there's no romance at the moment, direct your enthusiasm into other areas. Children will provide a useful focus, but only if you're prepared to let your hair down and let them take the lead. Artistic and creative pursuits also beckon.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Although today's seious Moon reminds you of everything you haven't done at home, it may be too late. Please, though, resolve to do better next time around! For a start you can sort out the financial implications before you get sucked in too deep.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)

You may have said or done something that you now regret, but what's said cannot be taken back. It may be a better use of your time to press on with practical tasks at home. If travelling, all on for delays. And if someone is on your mind, get in touch and find out how they are.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

The moment has come to exert your independence and authority in the realm of ideas. In other words, say your piece and make sure that others sit up and take notice. Don't be unduly concerned by financial tremors, by the way, for help is at hand.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

The Moon is lively, active and friendly in some senses, serious and sober in others - an indication that you should take the initiative and bring important plans to fruition very quickly. Above all, be sure to leave no loose ends, especially if rivals are waiting to trip you up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Something may happen which is rather confusing, but the answer may lie under your nose. It's all a question of opening your eyes and looking in a different direction. Also, you may realise that you have a great deal more emotional power than you imagine.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

A social engagement may be up for review, even cancellation, partly because you may be feeling weary at the thought of mixing with particular people. Actually, it could do you good to spend a little time in quiet contemplation. You might emerge feeling younger, fresher and full of life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

You should turn your attention to social issues, perhaps reviving plans for a party or gathering of some sort. At work you must set great store by team-work, but also begin to look at the larger picture, seeing the wood for the trees - just for a change!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

You may have been coasting along, imagining that you have all the time in the world to achieve a cherished ambition. You might be very, very wrong, and if you don't swing into gear now, you could miss a vital chain about twelve weeks' time. And that would never do.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)

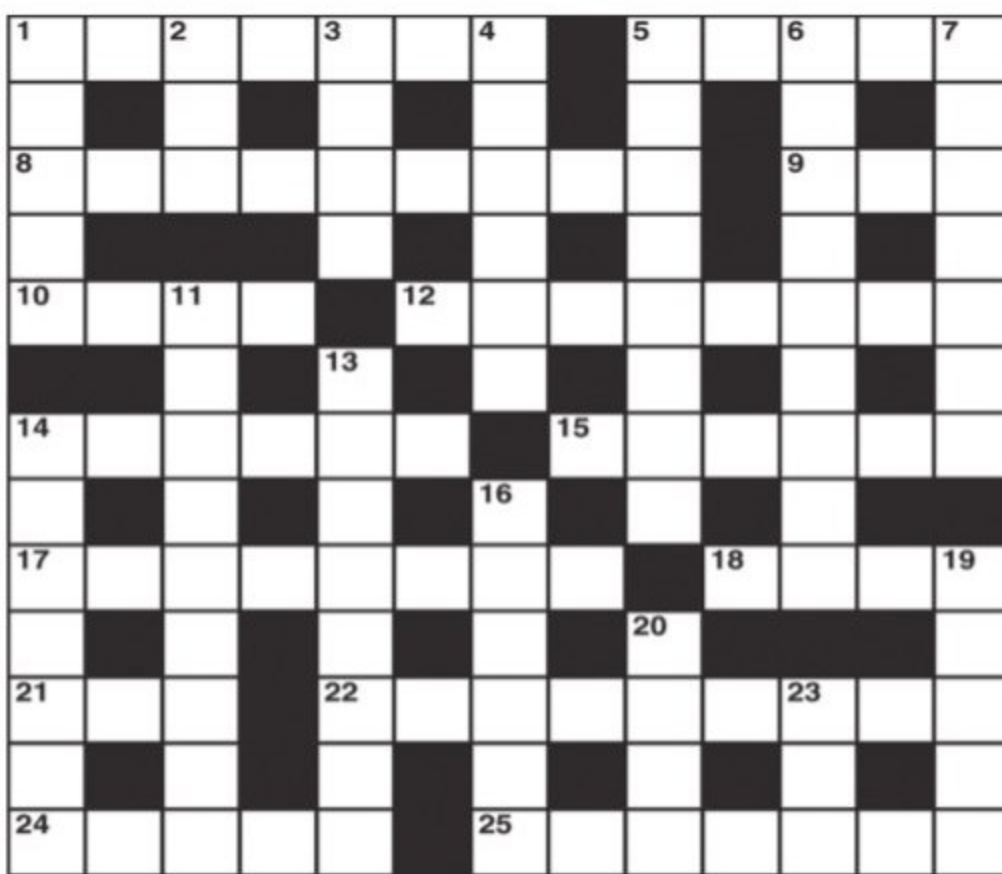
The first message from today's stars is to be businesslike. The second is to be adventurous. It's an excellent moment to set off on a new course, one which may eventually involve overseas connections. But if you're going on a journey, it might be a voyage of the spirit.



SUDOKU EASY

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3x3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

- No food for cool cats (34)
- A Greek style (5)
- Lucky thing, sohe - or she - makes out (9)
- Be prone to untruth (3)
- Sang out when in difficulty (4)
- Shown to have a deficit and charged (8)
- Actor's miscast as one of heavenly twins (6)
- Publicist starts a plot and is investigated (6)
- Female communist made king of England (8)
- Refuse to allow a free vote (4)
- Take a shot of cannabis (3)
- Needle worker (9)
- Account being overdrawn had to move fast (5)
- Dedicated a Sterne novel (7)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: Reporter: 5 Maud, 9 Paved, 10 Imagine, 11 Missionaries, 18 London, 14 Section, 17 Express train, 20 Inkwell, 21 Until, 22 Girl, 23 Gradient.

DOWN

- Exclamation of surprise has produced laughter (2-3)
- Pitch of the road (3)
- Frank has nothing to write (4)
- Ancient Greeks were riddled by it (6)
- Studio made of tiles are (8)
- Friend has a selection of food that's tasty (9)
- Put it right just as noon was reached? (7)
- Teaches it in translation as artistic (9)
- Besmirched a dull poet perhaps (8)
- Virginia's stealthy one (7)
- Pay for a seat (6)
- One of those pieces of eight (5)
- Pitifully lacking money (4)
- One again shows anger (3)

JUMBLE UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

CYTIH
RBOUR
NZSAAT
GDSEIT



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Yesterday's

Jumbles: FOCUS WRING DOCTOR SAVIOR
Answer: When the new space telescope began sending incredible images, it was -- SO FAR, SO GOOD

Landlord saves abandoned baby, case against mom

Mother fled after delivering in field; a woman labourer breastfeeds the infant

PRAVEEN KUMAR @ Bengaluru

A landlord's presence of mind saved an abandoned baby from being attacked by stray dogs or other wild animals near Bannerghatta forest area.

N Muniswamy Reddy (55), a resident of Hullahalli, was out on his morning walk, when he heard a baby crying. Reddy found the baby around 5.30 am in his field under a bush, drenched in rain and covered in mud.

He immediately sought the help of women labourers working in his field. One of them, who was a nursing mother, breast-fed the baby after bathing him.

The landlord then informed the police to ensure he gets medical treatment. The Bannerghatta police have regis-

tered a case under IPC section 317 against the baby's mother, and are looking for her.

Reddy told TNIE, "It appears that the mother delivered him in the fields the previous night and abandoned the baby. I wanted to raise him, but was told that there will be legal issues. I immediately called the jurisdictional Bannerghatta police."

The police rushed to the spot and informed the Asha workers, and then shifted the baby to Jigani Government Hospital.

"The baby has been shifted to Vani Vilas Hospital. The baby is out of danger. The Women and Child Development Department will take his custody. We are searching for the woman who abandoned the baby after delivering," said an officer.

EXPERTS: FOCUS ON PREVENTIVE HEALTHCARE

NAMRATA SINDWANI @ Bengaluru

PREVENTIVE healthcare is the key to addressing several health-related issues people are facing currently, experts said. There is a need to improve preparedness for emergency care services, chronic disease management, antenatal care and immunisation to bridge the flaws seen during the pandemic, they added.

The lockdown brought attention to prevalent issues of inadequate staffing, diagnostics, availability of drugs, preventive healthcare services from primary to a tertiary care centre and super-specialty care causing overcrowding in hospitals and increased cost of care, said Dr Sylvia Karpagam, a researcher and public health doctor.

It is essential to make pre-

ventive healthcare a national priority as non-communicable diseases (NCDs) have become the leading cause of death and suffering, contributing to 65 per cent of deaths in India, Dr Prathap Reddy, Apollo Hospitals, remarked.

Since India is one of the fastest growing economies in the world, it is important

for health to be considered as a critical indicator to ensure proactive measures are taken to reduce the impact of NCDs, he added.

Doctors highlighted that poor regulation in the private health sector has resulted in increased cost of care. The Private Public Partnership (PPP) models being pro-

moted in healthcare are also adding to it. Ahead of World Health Day observed on April 7, Apollo Hospitals released the Health of the Nation Report 2023. The report stated that diabetes and hypertension cases saw a rise of 8% and 11% respectively from 2019 to 2022. Anxiety, depression, sleep disorders, and digestive irregularities also increased over time.



FAITH IN FORCES

People shower petals on Border Security Force and police personnel during a route march through a sensitive area in Kolar on Thursday, ahead of the Assembly elections | EXPRESS

CBI court convicts 2 I-T ex-officials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

SPECIAL Judge for CBI cases, Dharwad, Justice N Subramanya sentenced two former income-tax officials - Abhishek Tripathi and Alok Tiwari - to four years rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs 1,10,000 each in a bribery case.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered a case against the I-T officials on allegations of demanding illegal gratification from the

complainant for dropping prosecution proceedings against him under Section 276-B of the IT Act. "Tripathi, who was then working as income-tax officer (TDS) in Belagavi, had demanded Rs 4 lakh as bribe from the complainant when he came to inquire about a show cause notice dated November 30, 2015, issued to his company for defaulting on belated tax remittance. The bribe was later reduced to Rs 2.5 lakh, and Tripathi instructed the complainant to pay the amount to

his colleague Tiwari, who in turn instructed him to hand over the bribe to a private person," stated the CBI in an official release on Thursday.

Based on the complaint, the CBI had laid a trap and caught the private person while accepting the bribe on behalf of the accused government officials. CBI had investigated and charge-sheeted the two. "The trial court convicted both officials and acquitted the private person," the Central anti-corruption agency added.

Bengaluru hospital restores Kenyan patient's vision

ENS @ Bengaluru

A Kenyan patient suffering from a rare eye condition which caused complete loss of vision and restricted right eye movement for three weeks was successfully treated at a Bengaluru hospital.

The patient was experiencing severe headaches and pain in her eye. Her right eye was completely shut. Despite consulting several hospitals in the US and Kenya, but she failed to get appropriate treatment.

Dr Prashanth R Reddy, chief ENT and endoscopic skull base surgeon, BGS Gleneagles Glo-

bal Hospital, said the patient suffered from a rare condition called Idiopathic Inflammatory Orbital Cellulitis which causes swelling in the eye and optic nerve. He performed zero cut endoscopic optic nerve decompression surgery to reduce swelling and improve the flow of fluids and blood in her eye which helped her regain her vision. Her eye was completely cured within two days. The doctor said that after three weeks of no vision, it was a relief for her to regain complete vision post-surgery, unlike most cases where the person ends up losing vision permanently.

Congress MLA Sowmya's car seized for flouting MCC

Bengaluru: Enforcement agencies seized a car belonging to Congress MLA from Jayanagar Assembly constituency Sowmya

Reddy and seized mobile phones, blouse pieces and sares. The car was seized at a checkpoint in Tilaknagar police station limits when the police stopped the car for checking. As it allegedly amounted to violation of the model code of conduct, the police seized the vehicle and the material found in it. So far, the authorities have seized Rs 27,38,21,221 in cash, 4,25,127 litres of liquor worth Rs 26,38,67,100, 25.24 kg of gold worth Rs 9,87,01,791, freebies worth Rs 12,48,57,991, and other articles. The worth of the total seizure totalled Rs 77,93,28,993.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala - 147001)
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SG C0338 13, Website: www.pspcl.in
Mobile No. 96461-10914

E-Tender Enq.No. 7399/P-1/EMP-12161 dated: 03.04.23
Dy. Chief Engineer / Headquarter (Procurement Cell-I) GGSSTP, Roopnagar
invites E-Tender ID No. 2023.POWER.100239.1 for Procurement of PJ
Group (Packing Material) refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from
05.04.2023 / 5.00 PM onwards.

Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at
<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

205/RTP-41/23-4/6/2023
76155/12/1543/2023/22858

ಕೆನರಾ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್
(A Government of India Undertaking)
(A Finance Syndicate)

Bommanahalli Branch - No.65/2A/1, Panchratna Complex, Near Lorven
Public School,Kodichikkanahalli Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore - 560 068
Mob: 080 - 25736551, Email: cb3047@canarabank.com

DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWER / GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR

Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

To,
Borrower: M/s Chowdeshwari Devi Enterprises
(Prop - Smt Chowdamma W/o Muniyappa K),
Mortgagor & Guarantor: Sri Muniyappa K S/o Narayanappa
Both are at: AT- 16/17/4, 1st Main, 2nd Cross, Shantinagar, Near
Oxford School, Hongasandra, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru-560068.

That you, M/s Chowdeshwari Devi Enterprises (Prop-Smt Chowdamma W/o Muniyappa K), (hereinafter referred to as "the Borrower"), Sri Muniyappa K S/o Narayanappa (hereinafter referred to as "Guarantor") has availed Credit Facility against which there are outstanding liabilities as mentioned below. We had called upon you to clear the entire liabilities for the loans borrowed from our Bommanahalli Branch.

You have committed default in repayment of loans as mentioned below and the loans were classified as Non Performing Assets on 25.02.2023. The Bank through this notice brings to your attention that you have failed and neglected to repay the said dues/ outstanding liabilities and hence hereby demand you under Section 13(2) of the Act, by issuing this notice to discharge in full the liabilities of the Borrower as stated in hereunder to the Bank within 60 days from the date of receipt of this notice. The notice under Sec.13(2) of the Act sent to you by Post. Ack. Due on 24.03.2023 was not acknowledged by you.

Further, it is brought to your notice that you are also liable to pay future interest at the rate together with all costs, charges, expenses and incidental expenses with respect to the proceedings undertaken by the bank in recovering its dues.

Please take note of the fact that if you fail to repay to the Bank the aforesaid sum of Rs.27,56,162.56 (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand One Hundred Sixty Two & Fifty Six Paise Only) together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs as stated above in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of the Act, The Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub-section (4)(a) and (b) of Section 13. You are hereby restrained from dealing with any of the secured assets detailed below in terms of Section 13(13).

Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

SL NO	Loan No	Nature of Loan	Liability with interest as on date	Rate of Interest
1.	304772700002	PMIEGP-TL	Rs. 13,98,814.37	11.50 %
2.	304726100063	PMIEGP-WC	Rs. 8,96,561.00	11.50%
3.	304775500022	GECL	Rs. 4,60,787.19	9.85 %

Details of Security Assets:

Immovable: Land & Building Property bearing list no. 16, Old khata no. 17/4, Old Bommanahalli CMC Form No. III (Rule-20), SI No.-859, Property No. 16/17/4, situated at Hongasandra Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 15 feet together with building constructed thereon and entire site is bounded on the East By: Road, West By: Private property, North By: Govinda Reddy's property and South By: Private property. Name of the Title Holder: Sri Muniyappa K S/o Narayanappa.

Place : Bangalore
Date : 06.04.2023
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my client Mr. JABAR SINGH, aged about 53 Years, S/o. Late. Man Singh, has negotiated to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from M/s. R.V. AUTO FINANCE. If any person's or Institution, Authority etc., have got any objections or claiming any right, title and interest of what so ever nature on the Schedule Property, are hereby required to communicate the same along with supporting documents to me at my Office within (7) Seven days from the date of this notice. Otherwise, the sale transaction will be completed without any reference or regard to any such purported claim or interest, which shall be deemed to have been waived to all intents and purposes.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Municipal New No.38, Old No.7, New BBMP PID Khatha No.61-11-38, presently situated at Mavalli Main Road, Mavalli, Bangalore, BBMP Ward No.61, Vishveshwarapuram, (Old Chikmagalur Division 37.58, Sushela Road, Bangalore, measuring East to West 24'5" feet and North to South 33'00" Feet, in total measuring about 808'5" Sq.Feet and bounded on East by: Road, West by: Road, North by: Bhajane Mane, South by: Narasimha's House.

Address for Service:
S.M. ASHA, ADVOCATE
#8/1, 4th Cross, Balappa Layout, K.M Road, Adugodi, Bangalore-560030.
Mob:9242049499

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform you that our proposed project, M/s.Mahatma Gandhi Vidya Peetha Trust Hospital project at Sy Nos. 38, 44, 73, 67, 22/P4 & 43 of Devarakaggalhalli village, Harohalli Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramnagara District, Karnataka File No. SEIAA 77 CON 2017 has been accorded with Environmental Clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India. Copies of Clearance letters are available in the website of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at <http://www.envfor.nic.in>

M/s.Mahatma Gandhi Vidya Peetha Trust, Shavige Malleshwaram Hills, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bangalore - 560078

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the public at large that my clients are conducting due diligence into the legality and marketability of the title to the property described in the Schedule hereunder ("the Schedule Property") appended hereto are owned, well and sufficiently possessed by the owner TG Mruthyunjaya. A person claiming interest in the Schedule Property, may submit the details of such interest with authenticated copies of the documents in support thereof to the undersigned within SEVEN days of the publication of this notice, failing which my clients will presume that there is no claim and will not entertain any claim later.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing BBMP Property No.19 (New) and 189 (Old), PID No.27-12-19, 6th Cross, Gandhinagar, Bangalore 560009, comprising of site measuring as per the records east to west 45 feet and north to south 75 feet or 3375 square feet but actually measuring approximately 3020 square feet and a five-storey commercial building (including basement) thereon, the property being bounded on the -
East by: the property belonging to Sri S.N. Ramachandra,
West by: the property belonging to Sri Kuppaswamy Naidu,
North by: 6th Cross Road, and
South by: the property belonging to Sri Sundaram Iyer.
Govindaraj K. Joisa, Advocate, LAW MINDS, #4/18, 2nd Floor, 11th Cross, Nagapura Main Road, WOC Road, Mahalingapuram, Bangalore-560086.

SAD DEMISE



K. M. KRISHNAPPA
FORMER EMPLOYEE OF HAL
BORN: 22.11.1944 DIED: 5.04.2023

We regret to inform you that our father Sri K. M. Krishnappa passed away on 05.04.2023. We pray to God to grant his soul eternal peace.

Deeply Mourned by
Daughter: Malini Shivakumar
Son-in-law: M.R. Shivakumar
Children & Nieces: Lata & Manjunath, Vani & Junesandra Kumar, Pushpa & Devendra & Grand Children's

RAMBO CIRCUS
PRESENTS
International Circus Festival
8th April To 23rd April 2023
Daily 3 Shows 1:30pm, 4:30pm & 7:30pm
WE ACCEPT ALL DEBIT & CREDIT CARDS
ST. JOHN'S AUDITORIUM, OPP BDA COMPLEX GATE NO.5, KORAMANGALA
961554897

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to general public that, I Vijayalakshmi W/o S. Basavaraj, Aged About 58 Years, R/at. No.96, Duo Enclave Layout, Kodichikkanahalli Main Road, Behind Sadguru Gas Agencies, Bengaluru- 560076, intending to purchase the below mentioned Property from its present owners Sri. Ketan Mehta & Smt. Ami Ketan Mehta. In case, anyone having any sort of claims or objections relating to the Property or proposed sale may lodge the same with the under signed within 10 days from this publication with supporting documents failing which the sale transaction shall be completed without any reference to such rights, title, interest and claim.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No. 1087, formed by the Bangalore Development Authority in Sarakki (J.P. Nagar), II Phase, Bangalore, present Ward No. 177, having PID No. 57-77-1087 measuring East to West (21.03+20.42)2 Mtrs and North to South 12.19 Mtrs and totally measuring 252.63 Sq Mtrs, along with Three bed room house constructed bricks and cement having RCC roof measuring total 2800 Sq.ft / 252.63 sq.meters along with home wood, and bounded on the:

East By : Road; West By : Property No. 1101;
North By : Property No. 1086; South By : Property No. 1088.

Vijayalakshmi, W/o S. Basavaraj, Aged About 58 Years, R/at. No.96, Duo Enclave Layout, Kodichikkanahalli Main Road, Behind Sadguru Gas Agencies, Bengaluru - 560 076.

S. BASAVARAJ, Advocate
Office No. 155/165, 1st Floor, "Nanda Gokula", 6th Main Road, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 011. Mobile: 9880448560
Email: baburaj0815@gmail.com

Altum Credo HOME FINANCE PVT. LTD.
Regd. Office: CTS No. 1074/1, Plot No. 426/1, Gokhale Road, Shivajinagar, Shivajinagar, Pune - 411016, MAHARASHTRA.

POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

The undersigned being the authorized officer of Altum Credo Home Finance Pvt Ltd., (hereinafter referred to as "ACHR") for the sake of brevity) is registered under section 29-A of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987 having its Registered office address CTS NO. 1074, Plot No.426/1, Gokhale Road, Model Colony, Shivajinagar, Pune - 411016.Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("SARFAESI Act, 2002") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("Enforcement Rules") issued a demand notice under section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 dated 03/02/2023 calling upon the Borrower/Co-Borrower and guarantor Mr. Nataraj A and Mrs. Lakshamma (collectively referred to as the "Borrowers") to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.6,33,735 (Rs. Six Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Five Only) as on 31-12-2022 (along with future interest commutable till the date of payment in full) within 60 days from the date of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the immovable property "Secured Asset" described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act, 2002 read with Rule 8 of the Enforcement Rules, on this 5th Day of April 2023.

The Borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the Secured Asset and any dealings with the Secured Asset will be subject to the charge of Altum Credo Home Finance Pvt Ltd (ACHFL) for an amount of Rs. 6,33,735 (Rs. Six Lakh Thirty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Five Only) as on 31-12-2022 and interest thereon. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

All that Piece and Parcel of property Bearing Property No.133/SI.No.114 measuring 30x35 ft. Situated at Dooda Chimanahalli Village, Kundana Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on: East by: Property of Hanumakki, West by: Property of Narayanamma, North by: Church, South by: Government Road.

Place: Bangalore
Altum Credo HOME FINANCE PVT. LTD. (ACHFL)
Authorised Officer

The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking
(OF THE BRIHANMUMBAI MAHANAGARPALIKA)

TENDER NOTICE

E-tenders are Re-invited for the supply of following items.

(1) 74915 (Corrigendum), (2) 76221 (Corrigendum).

Note : For more details, log on to website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>
PRO/AAM(M)/3/2023 GENERAL MANAGER

E-TENDER NOTICE
MAHARASHTRA METRO RAIL CORPORATION LTD
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Maharashtra)
PUNE METRO RAIL PROJECT
101, The Orion, Opposite Don Bosco Youth Centre, Koregaon Park, Pune- 411001
E-mail: tenders.pmp@mahametro.org
Website: www.punemetrorail.org
Telephone no: 020-26051074

Tender Notice No: P1-O&M-03/2023 Date: 07/04/2023

Name of Work: 1. Providing services of (a) Mechanized Housekeeping cleaning, (b) Ticketing (TOM/EFO Management), (c) Security Services for 29 stations of Pune Metro Rail Project.
2. Providing services of (a) Mechanized Housekeeping Cleaning, (b) Security Services at Range Hill Depot & Hill View Park Car Depot of Pune Metro Rail Project.
3. Cleaning & Washing of Rolling Stock (34 Train Sets)

KEY DETAILS:

Contract Period: 2 Years from the date of issue of LOA

Cost of Tender documents INR 59,000/- (Fifty Nine Thousand Rupees only) non-refundable (inclusive of applicable taxes) to be paid by e-payment by RTGS/NEFT as per details in Annexure-2B (Tool Kit for using E-Tender Portal of MAHA-METRO) of Tender Document.

Bid Security Bid Security amount shall be INR 25,00,000/- payable in the form of Bank Guarantee as per Bid Form-B-9 or in the form of Demand Draft in favour of Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Limited, payable at Pune.

Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) registered bidders are exempted from cost of Tender documents and Bid Security, subject to submission of the MSE registration certificate along with submission of bid.

Sale of document, e-payment procedure, submission and other details shall be available on Maha-Metro e-tender portal <https://mahametrorail.tenders.in> from 18:00 Hrs on 08/04/2023. To view this tender notice, interested bidders may visit the website "www.punemetrorail.org" or CPP portal <https://eprocure.gov.in>

Executive Director (Procurement & Contracts), PMPR
Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Limited
Maha Metro, Greenest Metro

Cong in the hunt for winnable candidates?

Names for 58 seats not declared; Party leaders deny speculation, claim abundance of ticket seekers, strong network

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Congress on Thursday released its second list of 42 candidates, which includes expected names like HY Meti, Baburao Chinchansur, Santosh Lad, Kimmane Rathnakar and others. Having finalised names for 166 seats, the party has kept 58 constituencies on hold, leading to talk that it lacks sureshot winners here.

The Congress Election Committee (CEC) meeting, chaired by All-India Congress Committee (AICC) president Mallikarjun Kharge, held deliberations in the national capital on Tuesday and Wednesday to choose the candidates.

The 58 constituencies include those where the party has failed to open its account in the past three or four elections, and are dominated by the BJP and Janata Dal (Secular), like Shikaripura, Uttarahalli, Ramana-gara and others along the coast. The Congress stands a very slim chance in these seats, and has neither strong candidates nor a good party network at the booth level.

Congress leaders, though, deny this, and claim that it has more than one candidate, so the party is likely to take more time to finalise its third list. KPCC



When Siddaramaiah was vying for Kolar, party leader Rahul Gandhi had suggested that he stick to Varuna

working president Saleem Ahmed said, "This is not the case. We have more than one candidate here and competition is tough, therefore, we are taking more time."

Dr Gourav Vallabh from AICC said, "We have candidates in all 224 constituencies. We got 1,350 applications which makes it an average of six candidates per constituency."

"The Congress has released 166 names, which the BJP is not able to do. Congress is probably the only party that has represented every constituency and has members in every village," Opposition leader in

Q We have candidates in all 224 constituencies. We got 1,350 applications which makes it an average of six candidates per constituency

Dr Gourav Vallabh from AICC

the Legislative Council BK Hariprasad said.

No second seat for Siddu?

The issue of Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Siddaramaiah contesting from a second seat — Kolar — did not come up for discussion at the election committee meeting, according to sources. It means the party is unlikely to give him a second seat as the policy is 'One leader, One ticket', as KPCC president DK Shivakumar had clarified in the recent past.

In fact, when Siddaramaiah was vying for Kolar, party leader Rahul Gandhi had suggested that he stick to Varuna, and his name is on the first list of 124 candidates.

Congress leader Kothur G Manjunath, who is facing a case with regard to alleged fake SC caste certificate in the high court, is expected to be the Mulbagal (SC) candidate if the verdict goes in his favour. If it goes against him, he may move to Kolar, which is why candidates have not yet been declared for Kolar and Mulbagal.

Youth Congress to reach every home in 100 seats

RAMU PATIL @Bengaluru

CONGRESS, which is making all efforts to come back to power in the state, has directed the Youth Congress members to focus on 100 constituencies to take the party's message to every household.

"We are working with full focus in 100 seats," Indian Youth Congress (IYC) president BV Srinivas told *TNIE* on Thursday. Youth Congress members have been asked to concentrate in the constituencies that the party won or lost by narrow margins in the 2018 elections.

From different parts of the country, IYC leaders including its state unit presidents have been assigned different constituencies. They are going door-to-door and tell people the Congress' guarantees and the state government's failures.

"We will win 130 to 140 seats," said Srinivas who visited many Assembly segments. The Youth Congress members are actively working on the ground for 45 days and before that, they were also involved in Covid relief ef-

forts, he said.

"They talk about implementing the UP and Gujarat model in Karnataka. But, people in Karnataka need jobs, but the government has failed to create employment opportunities. Many investors have left the state as they (BJP leaders) lack long-term vision," he said. The IYC is also focusing on first-time voters, while Union ministers are frequenting college campuses to woo the youth.

The Congress leader dared the ministers to first talk how many jobs they have given. "The BJP central leaders visiting the state should also talk about 40 per cent corruption and irregularities in police sub-inspector recruitment scam," he said.

Srinivas said they are also explaining to people why former AICC president Rahul Gandhi was disqualified as an MP. "It was done after Rahul Gandhi started questioning Prime Minister Narendra Modi about industrialist Gautam Adani. They have done all that to protect one person," he said.

WILL BJP DENT CONG'S PROSPECTS IN KHARGE'S TURF?

RAMAKRISHNA BADESHEI
@Kalaburagi

WINNING the Chittapur (SC-Reserve) constituency in the May 10 Karnataka Assembly elections is a matter of prestige for the Congress as it was once represented by the present All-India Congress Committee (AICC) president Mallikarjun Kharge.

While the Congress is confident of bagging the seat, represented by incumbent Priyank Kharge, son of the AICC chief, the BJP is banking on the caste combination and the governance of the State and Union governments, to wrest the seat from the Grand Old Party. Political pundits, however, opine that a clear picture will only emerge after the BJP announces its candidate.

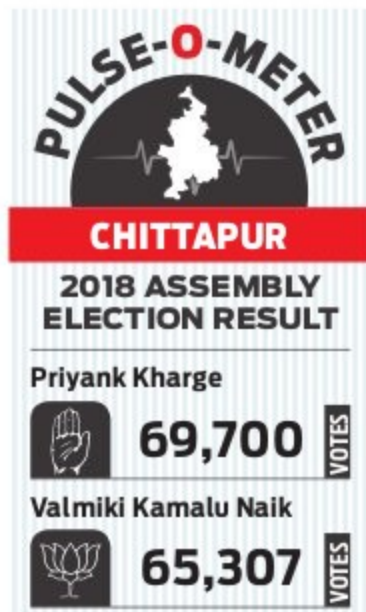
Priyank has represented the constituency for the last 10 years and is presently the head of the communication and social media wing of the KPCC.

Prior to being declared a reserved constituency in 2008, Chittapur was a general constituency represented by the Koli-Kabbaliga leader Baburao Chinchansur of the Congress in 1989, 1994 and 1999. In 2004, Vishwanath Patil Hebbal of JDS defeated Chinchansur.

After delimitation in 2008, Mallikarjun Kharge, who represented Gurmitkal (which was a SC-Reserved constituency and part of undivided Gulbarga district then) for eight terms from 1972 to 2004, shifted base to Chittapur after Gurmitkal became a general constituency and Chittapur a SC-Reserved segment.

Priyank had to taste his maiden defeat in the bypolls in 2009 (as Mallikarjun Kharge resigned as MLA post to contest Lok Sabha elections) in the hands of BJP's late Valmiki Kamalu Naik. In the 2013 elections, Priyank defeated Naik by a margin of 31,191 votes and by 4,393 votes in the 2018 polls.

The return of Chinchansur to Congress from BJP is a big boost for the GoP in Chittapur as close to 35,000 voters belong to his Koli-Kabbaliga-Kuruba community. Former minister Revu Naik Belamgi, a Banjara community leader, who joined the Congress quitting JDS, will also help Priyank as the constituency has



about 30,000 Lambani and SC/ST voters each, besides 40,000 Lingayat voters.

On the other hand, BJP is hopeful of winning Chittapur this time based on caste calculations. Lingayats, considered a strong vote bank for the BJP, are about 40,000 in number. SC/ST voters too might vote in favour of BJP due to the recent order on internal reservation, opined political pundits. "There are a large number of voters belonging to the Banjara community. They have been supporting the BJP since the beginning. Also, there are close to 15,000 voters of the Waddar community," claims convener of district BJP election committee Amaranth Patil. He says the development works implemented by the double-engine government in Chittapur will help the BJP.

Several residents of the town told *TNIE* that they are yet to decide who will they vote for on May 10. "Development has taken place... but we don't know whom to give credit. We want a stable government," a resident said.

Speaking to *TNIE*, Priyank said that his clean image would help him win the seat. "There is no allegation of corruption against me," he said. He said there has been no communal violence in Chittapur for the last 10 years. "I have developed a township at Wadi and distributed Hakku Patras to 1,000 beneficiaries. All villages and cities are connected with good roads. An education hub has been established at Nagavi," Priyank said. The MLA said he is banking on the development works implemented by him to help him win the seat.

POLL TALK

BJP-Congress pact in Varuna to help Siddu, says HDK

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mysuru

SENIOR JDS leader and former chief minister **HD Kumaraswamy** on Thursday said that the Congress and BJP have entered into an alliance in Varuna constituency to ensure the victory of CLP leader and former CM Siddaramaiah.

Addressing a gathering at the party's Pancharatna Yatre at Periyapatna near here, the former CM said that the JDS will field a candidate in Varuna as the BJP has created a favourable atmosphere for Siddaramaiah in Varuna by fielding a weak candidate. He also brushed aside allegations made by the Congress that the JDS is in an understanding with the BJP.

He also criticised the BJP for roping in actors like Sudeep and others for campaigning after Prime Minister Narendra Modi failed to attract voters. "Let us see what these stars will do in

the election," he added. Kumaraswamy said that there is an overwhelming response to the party's Pancharatna Yatre and expressed confidence of coming to power in Karnataka. He said that people in urban pockets, including Bengaluru, are also looking up to JDS.

Referring to JDS supremo and former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda's contributions to the development of Karnataka, he said that the farming community should know that it was his government that waived farm loans.

Urging farmers not to commit suicide, he said his government will always stand by them when they are in distress.

On Hassan ticket

Kumaraswamy clarified that no one from his family will contest the Assembly polls from Hassan. He said that a party worker will be fielded and made it clear that his wife Anitha will not contest the election. He said that she will work for the party organisation and will not get into electoral politics.

BOMMAI DARES GOP TO CLARIFY STAND ON SC INTERNAL QUOTA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hubballi

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai dared the Congress to clarify whether it is in favour or against classification of internal quota for Scheduled Caste communities, and increase in quota for SCs or not.

Addressing a convention organised by the Federation of Karnataka SC Associations to thank the State Government for its decision on internal quota here on Thursday, he attacked the Congress for its "double standards on internal reservation for SCs" and said the Dalit community wanted to know the party's stand on the issue.

Despite agreeing to increase the quota for SCs as per their population, during the all-party meeting, Congress leaders are now opposing it as unconstitutional after the BJP government's decision, he said, adding that it showed their concern for social justice. "They thought the BJP would not dare to take such a sensitive decision, the government proved its commitment," he stated.



Members of the Federation of Karnataka SC Associations felicitate Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai in Hubballi on Thursday | D HEMANTH

ment," he stated.

Bommai said the Siddaramaiah government left a sword dangling over the Banjara, Bhovi, Koracha and Korama communities, as the SC Commission questioned their inclusion in the list of SCs. "But my government wrote to the Union government on continuation of these sects as SCs, and a recent order issued by my government will ensure that," he added.

Cautioning Dalit communities to beware of the Congress,

Bommai alleged that the latter is creating a divide in SCs.

Veteran BJP leader B S Yediyurappa said no caste would be removed from the list of SCs and appealed to the Banjara community not to heed the smear campaign of the Congress party. He said the government has not been unjust to any community either, by classifying internal quota or increasing quota for SCs and STs.

"No power in the state can

stop the BJP from winning 130 to 140 seats," the former chief minister said, and appealed to party workers to reach out to every household.

Candidate list tomorrow

Bommai said the state core committee meeting ended on Wednesday, and the final list would be released at the April 8 meeting. Reacting to reports on sitting MLAs not getting tickets, he said a report had been sought after examining candidates' performance at four levels. Tickets would be given after going through it.

Bommai termed as rumours, reports of him contesting from two constituencies and asked people not to heed them.

On the Congress giving a ticket to Vinay Kulkarni, a murder accused, he said since the case is pending before court, it was not right to comment. Asked if the BJP was giving tickets to candidates with criminal backgrounds, Bommai said the law is clear, and tickets would be given only after studying all factors.

Rahul a repeat offender, his party gave port to Adani on platter: FM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

UNION Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** on Thursday came down heavily on former AICC president Rahul Gandhi calling him a "repeat offender" for making baseless allegations against Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Speaking to reporters here, Sitharaman said, "Rahul Gandhi says he will not seek an apology like Veer Savarkar. He also gave a statement where he said RSS killed Mahatma Gandhi. Later, he had to tender an apology to the Supreme Court. In the previous Lok Sabha polls, he had repeatedly targeted the government on the Rafale fighter jet deal. But, he could not prove this in the Supreme Court and he had to apologise. Such people talk about Savarkar" she said sarcastically.

Challenging Rahul Gandhi to cancel the MoUs signed by the previous Congress governments in various states with the Adani group, Sitharaman stressed that the present Union Government has not helped the Adani Group.

"Congress is making such continuous allegations and it is all baseless. In Chhattisgarh, Kerala and Rajasthan, the gov-



ernments there have signed memoranda with the Adani Group... why should they sign?" she added.

She also alleged that it was the (then) Congress government in Kerala that gave the Vizhinjam port to Adani on a platter without calling for a tender. "An entire solar project in Rajasthan was given to the Adani Group. Why did Rahul Gandhi not try to cancel it?" she questioned.

She also hit out at the Congress for imposing the Emergency and said the party amended the Constitution illegally. "Such people say democracy is in danger now," she quipped.

'Cong promises mere poll tactics'

BENGALURU: Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday lambasted Congress for making unattainable pre-poll promises, and asked people not to be swayed by them. While the state budget size is ₹3 lakh crore, Congress' poll promises cannot be realistically accommodated, she said. "This is nothing but election tactics," she said. She said the BJP's attachment to Karnataka is not just during elections, but addressing the needs of people for years. In 2006, a resolution was passed regarding North Karnataka which were facing various problems, with high cases of farmers' suicides. Under six categories, huge amounts have been spent — railways, roadways, airways, infrastructure, defence and other works. The amount shows what a double engine government is capable of doing for the state, she said. **ENS**

Congress gives up Melukote for bigger gains in Vokkaliga belt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

IN a bid to contain the influence of Mandya MP Sumalatha Ambareesh, who announced her support to the BJP, and win over the Karnataka Raitha Rajya Sangha (KRRS) cadre, the Congress has decided not to field any candidate against Sarvodaya Karnataka Party's (SKP) **Darshan Puttanahalli**, son of late farmer leader K S Puttanahalli, from Melukote constituency in Mandya district.

Though there were many aspirants for the party ticket from Melukote, the Congress high command has strategically left the seat to the KRRS, that has a strong cadre across Mandya and Mysuru districts. Its support would brighten the prospects of its Congress candidates in the Vokkaliga heartland.

Noted writer Devanoor Mahadeva, who heads the SKP, and his followers had participated in Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra. The Congress leader had also held interactions with KRRS activists and farmers during his 500-km long walk through Karnataka.

In Kollegal, the Congress has reposed faith in AR Krishnamurthy, who had lost the as-



sembly election by one vote against R Dhruvanarayana in Santhamarahalli constituency. Although former MLAs S Jayanna and S Balaraj had thrown their weight between Siddaramaiah and D K Shivakumar, hoping to get the party ticket, the high command picked Krishnamurthy, who organised the party for the past five years in Kollegal assembly segment.

This has evoked dissent among supporters of Jayanna and Balaraj, who said he will take a decision after holding talks with senior Congress leaders.

Meanwhile, the stalemate over the candidate for Chamaraja and Krishnaraja constituencies continues. In Krishnaraja, former CM Siddaramaiah is

backing loyalist and former MLA MK Somashekar, while KR Naveen Kumar, a Youth Congress leader from the Brahmin community, is also lobbying for the ticket, claiming Brahmins forms a chunk of the electorate.

In Chamaraja, the Congress ticket has turned into a prestige issue between two former CMs — Siddaramaiah and M Veerappa Moily. Siddaramaiah wants his man Harish Gowda to be fielded, while Moily is backing his follower Vasu, though both Gowda and Vasu belong to the Vokkaliga community.

Defector accommodated

After a long wait for minister C N Narayana Gowda to join the Congress and contest from KR Pet in Mandya district, the party has fielded B L Devaraj, who had contested the byelection on a JDS ticket and lost to the BJP. He joined the Congress a couple of days ago.

The Congress is feeling the heat as more than seven candidates, including former MLA K B Chandrashekar, had sought tickets and even vandalised the Congress office over reports that Narayana Gowda would join the party.

AK ANTONY'S SON JUMPS SHIP, JOINS BJP

Pained by Anil's decision, says veteran Congress leader; says he will continue opposing policies of saffron party

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

FINALLY, after months of consideration, tech entrepreneur-turned politician Anil K Antony, who is the son of veteran Congress leader and former defence minister A K Antony, joined the BJP on Thursday.

Anil joined the saffron party here in the presence of Union ministers Piyush Goyal and V Muraleedharan, referring to his decision to switch sides, Anil said that the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi inspired him to join the BJP and serve the nation.

Lashing out at the Congress, he said, "Of late, many Congress leaders and workers think that their dharma is to work for a family. But my dharma is to work for the nation. My



Union minister Piyush Goyal (right) welcomes Kerala Congress leader Anil K Antony into the BJP, in New Delhi on Thursday | SHEKHAR YADAV

PM has a vision to take the country on a path of development in the next 25 years. He also has a clear vision to provide social and economic justice for all."

He said that Modi envisions India taking a very prominent place in an emerging multipolar world. "As an Indian, I feel

that the young India represents a vast majority of India. I do think that it is my responsibility and duty to contribute towards the PM's vision of nation-building and national integration," he said.

Earlier, Anil was heading the Digital Media cell of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee, but resigned from the party after his tweet on the BBC documentary surrounding the Gujarat riots had created a flutter in January this year. He had slammed the Congress leadership for working for a 'single family', instead of working for the country. He had also criticised the Congress' stand on the controversial documentary on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Welcoming Anil into the BJP, Goyal described him as a very grounded political worker who

was convinced that the BJP cares for the country and shares the prime minister's vision.

"This is not about personalities; this is about difference of opinion and ideas. I strongly believe that I have taken the right step. My respect for my father will remain the same," Anil said, upon being asked whether he had consulted his father before joining the BJP.

On the other hand, his father and veteran Congress leader AK Antony in Kerala told reporters that he was badly hurt with his son, Anil K Antony, joining the BJP. "I am pained by my son Anil's decision to join the BJP," he said, adding that he would continue opposing the BJP's policies. He accused his son's new party of destroying constitutional values in the country.

Bandi Sanjay gets bail, may be released from jail today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Warangal

THE in-charge judge of the Fourth Additional Munsif Magistrate Court, R Anitha, late on Thursday, granted conditional bail to Telangana BJP president and Karimnagar MP **Bandi Sanjay**, who is currently lodged in Karimnagar jail. He is expected to be released on Friday.

After nearly seven hours of arguments, Sanjay, who was named A1 in the SSC Hindi question paper leak case, was granted bail. He was arrested on Wednesday and remanded to 14 days judicial custody.

Sanjay's advocates filed the bail petition, while the Warangal police filed another petition seeking his police custody for further investigation.

After extensive deliberation, the judge granted Sanjay bail and slated the petition filed by the police for hearing to Monday. As part of the bail conditions, Sanjay must provide a surety amount of Rs 20,000, while those offering surety to him must provide an additional Rs 20,000. Sanjay must not leave the country, intimidate any witnesses in the case,

and must cooperate with the ongoing investigation, the court added.

Sanjay's legal team had requested a prompt decision on the bail petition. Advocate C Vidya Sagar Reddy presented arguments on behalf of the BJP State chief from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

After the initial arguments by Vidya Sagar Reddy, the case was posted to 4.45 pm by the First Class Magistrate of Fourth Additional Munsif Magistrate court.

Public Prosecutor (PP) V Revathi then started the arguments. Despite the court time ending at 5 pm, the two advocates continued their arguments till 8 pm, and even after that, the judge continued to hear the case. The arguments continued till 9 pm.

Vidya Sagar Reddy made a repeated plea for his client's bail and objected to his police custody. He insisted that the case against Sanjay was fabricated. On the other hand, the public prosecutor contended that Sanjay should be remanded to police custody for further collection of evidence as he is a political leader who is accused of jeopardising the future of children.



THREAT TO CORAL COLONIES?

NGT stays ₹72k cr Great Nicobar Island project

S V KRISHNA CHAITANYA
@ Chennai

A special bench of the National Green Tribunal has temporarily put on hold the Union Government's Rs 72,000-crore mega project for 'holistic development' of Great Nicobar Island (GNI) situated at the southern end of the Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands in the Bay of Bengal.

Identifying certain deficiencies, the bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel constituted a high-powered committee to revisit the environment clearance (EC) granted to the project.

The committee, which will be led by the secretary of the Union Environment Ministry, has been asked to meet within two weeks and finalise its proceedings within two months. "Till then, further work in pursuance of impugned EC may not proceed except for the work which may not be of irreversible nature," the bench said in its order.

The tribunal said there are some unanswered deficiencies pointed out by petitioners which need to be addressed.

For instance, out of 20,668 coral colonies, 16,150 are proposed to be translocated without any mention of threat to the remaining 4,518 coral colonies. Island Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2019, prohibits destruction of corals. "Further, data collected for impact assessment is only for one season as against requirement of three seasons. Also, part of the project is in the CRZ IA area where port is prohibited. These aspects may call for revisiting the EC by a high-powered committee," the bench said.

A bunch of petitions were filed before the NGT challenging the 'hasty clearances' given to the project. The project plan has four components -- Rs 35,000 crore transshipment port at Galathea Bay, a dual-use defence-civilian international airport, a power plant, and a township to be built over 30 years on more than 160 sqkm of land, of which 130 sqkm is pristine forestland.

The Union Environment Ministry has already given its clearance for one of the single largest forest diversions in recent memory.

IN A 1ST, RADIO TRACKING USED TO STUDY INSECT PREY PATTERN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

RESEARCHERS from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) undertook a study to understand the prey pattern of Lesser False Vampire Bats (LFVB) for two years, seeking an answer to the question- What is it about katydid (bush cricket) females that makes them more attractive to bats?

Consequently, they launched the first radio tracking study in India. A team of researchers from Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc glued 0.15g radio transmitters on the backs of male and female katydids and studied their pattern for two seasons during 2020 and 21 in Mala village near Kudremukh National Park.

The study was published in the Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology.

Kasturi Saha, student, CES, IISc, who is part of the study team told *TNIE* that these LFVBs are insectivorous and the study was an attempt at understanding their pattern. "We found a lot more remnants of female wings than males. It was unusual as females are usually silent when compared to males, who make



A lesser false vampire bat | KASTURI SAHA

calls to attract females for mating. Thus this study was taken up to know why LFVB are more attracted to females," she said.

It might be possible that the female katydid are larger than males and might be more nutritious, and are thus more preferred.

To test it, researchers focused on a group of katydids called whistlers, in which the females are almost double the size and weight of males. Researchers presented the free-flying whistler females and males to bats in large outdoor cage. Surprisingly, the bats approached both males and females with equal frequency. In

this experimental setup, females escaped capture more often than males. "So the theory that the size or nutrition value of females increased risk of their predation was ruled out," she said.

The researchers then pore into a third possibility that perhaps the females were flying out more often, and for this, they glued tiny radio transmitters onto the backs of male and female katydids and tracked them.

"We found that females tend to move 1.5 times more frequently and 1.8 times farther than males. Thus, it was concluded that flying more frequently and travelling longer distances put females at higher risk of being hunted by bats than males. A possible reason for these frequent long flights was because females might be moving around in search of mates and suitable locations to lay eggs," Kasturi added.

The researchers are now studying the diet pattern of the LFVB during breeding and non-breeding seasons, and also if the choice of females over males had any impact on the egg laying pattern and sex ratio.

IOCL senior manager jumps off Unity Building, dies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A 40-year-old senior manager of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) died by suicide after jumping off the third floor of Unity Building in SJ Park police station limits near BBMP head office around 7 pm on Thursday.

The deceased Aparna Kumari, was staying with her two children at her residence in Victoria Layout in Ashoknagar.

An eyewitness, Prem told the police that the victim jumped through the window.

An office staff made a futile attempt to rescue her by trying to grab her hand and pull her back.

The victim was immediately rushed to a nearby hospital where she succumbed to her injuries.

R Srinivas Gowda, DCP, Central, told *TNIE*, "She was suffering from depression, which could be a reason for taking the extreme step. She was also recently transferred from Bengaluru to Odisha," the DCP added. The victim has left behind a three-paragraph suicide note in her diary, which was recovered by the SJ Park police officers, who visited the office. The victim's mobile phone has also been seized, and the police have recorded the statement of some her colleagues.



TECH TRIALS

SC judge suggests use of AI to reduce case pendency

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

SUPREME Court judge Justice Aravind Kumar said artificial intelligence (AI) can be used to reduce pendency of cases, particularly motor vehicle accident cases (MVCs), which are the highest pending in the country.

He was speaking after being felicitated on being elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court at a function organised by the Advocates' Association of Bengaluru (AAB) in Vidhana Soudha on Thursday.

Justice Kumar said he took the initiative to conceptualise the programme using AI for speedy disposal of MVCs in Gujarat when he was Chief Justice, but he was elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court before he could accomplish the

project. "I have told the Registrar of Information Technology wing of the Gujarat High Court to accomplish it," he said.

Justice Kumar said the necessary programme required to determine the compensation for fractures and injuries involving motor vehicle accidents can be devised using AI, which can do wonders. So, such cases can be expeditiously disposed of, and time and money can be saved. "I discussed this issue with an advocate handling MVCs in Karnataka," he said.

Karnataka High Court Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale, Advocate General Prabhuling K Navadagi and senior advocates SV Murthy, Naganand, SN Murthy, Uday Holla, KG Raghavan spoke about the achievement of Justice Aravind Kumar on the occasion.



Visitors through the Rathotsava festival of Sri Virupaksha Temple in Hampi, Ballari district, on Thursday | EXPRESS

AGE-OLD TRADITION

EXPRESS READ

Dayananda Sagar's free KCET coaching from April 10

BENGALURU: Dayananda Sagar University will start hosting its free Karnataka Common Entrance Test (KCET) coaching from Monday. This is the third consecutive year in a row wherein the university will conduct the free KCET coaching course. The 'Learn-O-Daya 2023' will take place between April 10 to May 13, from 4 pm to 8 pm on Mondays through Saturdays. The course will focus on concept building as well as help students strategise on how to prepare for the examinations.

Min Bindu will look to retrace her steps, in Kathakali paint

SOVI VIDYADHARAN @ TPuram

IT is all about making the right moves, and Higher Education Minister R Bindu will be keen to retrace her steps to her college days. A winner of the Kathakali crown at the Calicut University Youth Festival five years on the trot in the late 1980s, she is all set to re-enact her favourite character, Damayanthi, on stage. The venue will be the National Music, Dance and Rhythm Festival being held in conjunction with the annual

festival of the Thrissur Koodalmanikyam temple from May 2 to 12.

Bindu will be performing under the guidance of Kalanilayam Raghavan Asan, her guru since she was 13. Raghavan Asan's daughter Jayasree Gopi and Beena C M will play Damayanthi's 'consorts'. Jayanthi Devaraj will join as 'hamsam' in the one-and-a-half-hour all-woman ensemble performance scheduled for May 7. The minister plans to utilise the remaining time to brush up on



R Bindu performing Kathakali at the Calicut University Youth Festival during her college days | *TNIE*

her Kathakali skills. "The art form remains embedded deep in every artist's mind, no mat-

ter how long. One just has to bring it to the fore and hone it further with proper practice," she told *TNIE*.

In the coming weeks, Raghavan Asan will guide Bindu in bringing Damayanthi to life on stage with the same finesse that she displayed years ago. Bindu's Damayanthi and Jayasree's hamsam used to be a winning combination at youth festivals when group performances were introduced, he recounts.

"Bindu has an edge as she has been pursuing Kathakali right

from childhood. It has been part of her growth process, a sort of second nature. Decades ago, we shared the stage on a few occasions and I had seen the spark in her as a performer," Raghavan Asan said.

Along with Bindu, hundreds of artists will be performing at a new venue, built by the Koodalmanikyam Devaswom adjacent to the temple premises. The temple courted controversy after a non-Hindu Bharatanatyam dancer was denied permission to perform at last year's festival.

Train arson: Saifi's bag in focus again

ENS @ Kozhikode

WITH Shahrulkh Saifi nabbed in connection with the Elathur train arson attack that resulted in three deaths, focus is once again back on the bag recovered near the crime scene that proved crucial in nabbing the Shaheen Bagh resident.

A notebook found inside, containing journal-like entries with dates, helped investigators ascertain that Saifi had executed the attack in D-1 and D-2 coaches of the Alappuzha-Kannur Executive Express on April 2.

Saifi, who was brought to the Armed Reserve Kozhikode from Ratnagiri in Maharashtra on Thursday, confirmed that the bag was his and that it was probably lost when he executed the attack. The SIT is now trying to find the reason behind Saifi carrying such a bag and the notebook having personal details during the crime.

The notebook contained scribbles like 'Shahrulkh Saifi-Carpenter', 'Fakhrudeen-Carpenter' and 'Harim-Carpenter', the name of Saifi's YouTube channel and names of places like Kazhakoottam, Thiruvananthapuram, Kovalam, Kullachal and Kanyakumari. The information was written in English. Besides the notebook, the bag also contained a bottle of petrol, several nails, a tiffin box, glasses, coins, a t-shirt as well as a mobile phone without a SIM card. The phone was last used on March 30. The bag and all its contents were checked.

Date: 06.04.2023
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Sir M.Visvesvaraya Co-operative Bank Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that our client proposes to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner **SMT. A.POORNIMA** Wife of Sri.Nagaraj.

Any person (s), having any manner of right, title, interest, ownership, claim etc., over the Schedule Property may lodge his /her /their / its objections or claims in writing with all supporting documentary evidence with regard to such claims with the undersigned within 15 days hereof, failing which, our client will proceed to complete the purchase transaction. Any objections/ claims received thereafter will not be entertained /binding on our client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the residential property No. 05, Old Pettanagere CMC Katha number 477, having BBMP Katha No. 7605/67/801/747, carved out of / formed over the residentially converted land in Sy. No. 67, duly converted vide official memorandum bearing No. B.Dis.ALN.SR (S) 208/1989-90 dated 18/12/1991 issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, situated at Halagevaderahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring East to West **40 Feet** and North to South **60 Feet**, in all measuring **2400 Square Feet**, together with residential structure measuring 01 Square, presently within the revenue limits of BBMP, Bangalore (Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike) and bounded as follows:

East by	: Site No. 06 owned by H.K.Girish
West by	: Site No. 28
North by	: Site No. 04 owned by Smt. Jayalakshamma
South by	: Road

S.ASHA RANI, ADVOCATE
82, 1st Floor, 41st Cross, 03rd Main, 08th Block,
Jayanagara, Bangalore – 560 070.
Ph: 080-26632343 / +91 88670 44666

Bangalore
Date: 6-4-2023

A copy of the required sector applicable Pro-forma or Form-I could be downloaded from BEE website : <https://beeindia.gov.in/content/pat-performa>.

If any person fails to submit a report on the status of annual consumption etc by 30th June, 2023, he shall be liable to a penalty under clause 26 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001.

For more information / query please contact us on 011-26766700 or send mail on newdc@beeindia.gov.in.
CBC 34106/12/0046/2223 **Mission Director, NMEEE**

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By Chief Engineer /Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSTP, Roopnagar
invites E-Tender Id No.2023_POWER_1002079_1 for Procurement of
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PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the properties more fully mentioned and described in the Schedule hereunder from its respective owners mentioned hereunder. The Owners represent and warrant that they are absolute owners of the Schedule Property and that they have neither conveyed nor have entered into any Agreement of Sale/Development Agreement/ Memorandum of Understanding nor any sort of arrangement with any person/s for sale/transfer/development of the Schedule Property. The Owners further represent that they have not encumbered, mortgaged, created any charge or lien on the Schedule Property in any manner and apart from them there are no other person/s, firm or company having any sort of right, title or claim over the Schedule Property. Any person/s having objection/s or claim/s, shall with documentary evidence, lodge their objection(s)/claim(s) within Fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this Notice with the undersigned failing which, my client shall proceed with the above-mentioned transaction.

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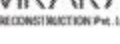
Sl. No.	Name of the Owners	Survey No.	Extent		Boundaries			
			Acre	Guntas	East by	West by	North by	South by
1.	M.R. Venkatesh Murthy, Son of Late M.B. Ramappa.	184/P16	01	00	Land bearing Survey No. 84	Land bearing Survey No. 132	Land bearing Survey No. 84	Land bearing Survey No. 13
2.	1. Smt. Susheelaamma, Wife of Sri. Gangadharappa 2. Smt. Roopa, Daughter of Late Thamme Gowda. 3. Smt. Anusuya, Daughter of Late Thamme Gowda 4. Smt. M. Anandamma, Wife of Late Munkrishnappa 5. Smt. M. Bharathraj, Son of Late Munkrishnappa & Anandamma.	128, 129, 130, 131, 132 & 133	05	20	Land bearing Survey No. 184	Land of M.B. Ramappa	Land bearing Survey No. 36	Land bearing Survey No. 181
3.	1. Shri. M. N. Srinivasa Murthy, son of Late M.P. Narayanaswamy @ Narayanappa 2. Smt. Nagamani, wife of Shri. M.N. Srinivasa Murthy 3. Shri. Pradeep Kumar M. S. Son of Sri. M.N. Srinivasa Murthy 4. Smt. Bhagyamma, Daughter of Late M.P. Narayanaswamy @ Narayanappa 5. Shri. M. N. Venkatesh Murthy, Son of Late M.P. Narayanaswamy @ Narayanappa	128, 129, 130, 131, 132 & 133 12/2 13/P-P2	05 02 02	20 00	Land bearing Survey No. 184 Land bearing Survey No. 132 Land of Krishnappa	Land of M.B. Ramappa Land bearing Survey No. 13 Land of Kalamma	Land bearing Survey No. 180 Land bearing Survey No. 133 Government Gutta	Land bearing Survey No. 13 of Sri. Ramachandrappa Land bearing Survey No. 132 and Pond. Property of Hunasamarana halli Mutt
4.	1. Shri. K. Amruthappa, son of Late Krishnappa 2. Smt. Rathinamma, wife of Shri. K. Amruthappa 3. Smt. A. Prathima, Daughter of Amruthappa 4. Shri. A. Jagadish, Son of Shri. K. Amruthappa 5. Shri. A. Ambarish, Son of Shri. K. Amruthappa 6. Shri. A. Prasanna Gowda, Son of Shri. K. Amruthappa 7. Smt. M. Sharadamma, wife of Late Manohar 8. Manjunatha M., Son of Late Manohar 9. Ramesh M., Son of Late Manohar	128, 129, 130, 131, 132 & 133 171	05 04	20 00	Land bearing Survey No. 184 Government Pond	Land belonging to Shri. M. Chandrappa Land bearing Survey No. 13/P-P2	Land bearing Survey No. 180, Vihara School & others Land bearing Survey No. 13	Land bearing Survey No. 13 belonging to Sri. Ramachandrappa Land bearing Survey No. 133

Place: Bengaluru

Date: 05/04/2023

Vinay K.S.

Advocate, Jayanth Pattanshetti Associates LLP
102, Ground Floor, "Rams Infantry Manor",
Infantry Road, Bengaluru-560 001.
Ph. No. 080-41238516, 080-41238367



OMKARA
ASSETS RECONSTRUCTION PRIVATE P. LTD.

Omikara Assets Reconstruction Private Limited

CIN: U67100TZ2014PTC020363

Regd. Office: 9 M.P. Nagar, 1st Street, Kankia Nagar E-6n, Trisput - 641607

Corporate Office: C-515, Kanakia Junction, Junction of L.B.S. Road and C.S.T. Road, B.K.C. Annexe,
Kurla (West), Mumbai - 400 070, Email: jasmine.gidwani@omkara.ae, omkara.ae@omkara.ae, omkara.ae, Mob.: +91 9833774478

[Appendix - IV(A)] See [proviso to rule 8 (b) r/w 9(1)]

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("SARFAESI Act") read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) & 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Edelweiss Housing Finance Limited. Further, Omikara Assets Reconstruction Pvt Ltd (OARPL) acting in its capacity as Trustee of Omikara PS 332028-2 (Trust) has acquired entire outstanding debts of the below account vide Assignment Agreement dated 03.03.2019 from Edelweiss Housing Finance Limited (Assignor) along with underlying security from assignor Accordingly, OARPL has stepped into the shoes of assignor and empowered to recover the dues and enforce the security. The Authorized Officer of the assignor took Physical Possession of the mentioned securities as on 29.04.2019 and thereafter, the Authorized Officer of OARPL took handover of the physical possession of the below mentioned secured property from the Assignor as on 31.03.2021. The Authorized Officer of OARPL hereby intends to sell the below mentioned secured properties for recovery of dues and hence the tenders/bids are invited in sealed cover for the purchase of the secured properties. The properties shall be sold in exercise of right conferred by sub-section (2) of section 5 of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 as "where 's' is, "As is where is", and "Whatever there is" and "Without recourse Basis". For recovery of amount shown below in respective column due to OARPL as Secured Creditor from respective Borrower and Co-Borrower(s) shown below. Details of the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagors, Securities, Outstanding Dues, Date of Demand Notice issued under Section 13(2), Reserve Price, Bid Increment Amount, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), Date & Time of Inspection is given as under:

Bank of Baroda Domlur Branch 248, 5th cross, 1st Main Rd, Bombar, Bengaluru-560071. E-mail : vjd@domlur.bankofbaroda.com			
NOTICE TO BORROWER/GUARANTOR			
(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)			
At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its Bank of Baroda, Domlur Branch. The relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrowers in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by registered AD calling upon you, was un-served/not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.			
1.Name and Address of the Borrowers/Co-Borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantors: 1) Late. Mrs. Srijanjan Abhinimanyu rep by her legal heirs, 2 Mr M K Abhinimanyu, Flat No. 401, La Maison De Repose, 100ft Road, Defence Colony, Indiranagar, Bengaluru.			
Nature and type of facility	Limit	Rate of Interest	O/s as on (inclusive of interest up to 09.01.2023)
Housing Loan - 73720600000575	Rs. 20,00,000/-	11%pa	Rs.64,55,384.99
Security agreement with brief description of securities : Primary Security: EMDTD HL A/c No. 73720600000575: Annexure I: Apartment bearing no. 401, on the 4th floor of building known as 'La Mansion De Repose' having 1632.40 sq ft buildup area with car parking space in the basement floor, along with 1/10th undivided share in Annexure II property. The building is having brick & cement wall RCC roofing, steel window & doors, mosaic tiles with electricity wall & sanitary facilities Annexure II: Survey No.269 situated at 100ft Road, Defence Colony, Indiranagar, Bengaluru measuring East to West 80 ft & North to South 110 ft totally 8800 sq ft & bounded on: East by: 100 ft Road, West by: Site No. 265, North by: Site No. 270 & portion of Site No. 271, South by: Site No. 268 & portion of site No. 269.			
Housing Loan - 73720600000576	Rs. 20,00,000/-	11%pa	Rs. 9,33,860.60
Security agreement with brief description of securities : Primary Security: EMDTD HL A/c No. 73720600000576: Annexure I: Apartment bearing no. 402, on the 4th floor of building known as 'La Mansion De Repose' having 1632.40 sq ft buildup area with car parking space in the basement floor, along with 1/10th undivided share in Annexure II property. The building is having brick & cement wall RCC roofing, steel window & doors, mosaic tiles with electricity wall & sanitary facilities Annexure II: Survey No. 269 situated at 100ft Road, Defence Colony, Indiranagar, Bengaluru, measuring East to West : 80 ft & North to South : 110 ft, totally 8800 sq ft & bounded on: East by: 100 ft Road, West by: Site No. 265, North by: Site No. 270 & portion of Site No. 271, South by: Site No. 268 & portion of site No. 269.			
Amount Outstanding: Rs.15,79,245.59 (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Seventy Nine Thousand Two Hundred Forty Five & Fifty Nine Paise Only)			
NPA Date : 29.12.2022		Demand Notice Date : 11.01.2023	
If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deems necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.			
Date : 05.04.2023 Place : Bengaluru		Sd/- Authorised Officer Bank of Baroda	



STATE BANK OF INDIA

STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH(SARB), J. C. Road, BENGALURU

Authorised Officer's Details:
Name: Shri. Nagendra Nagaih
e -mail Id: sbi.05173@sbi.co.in,
Mobile No: + 91 9964970123
Landline No. (Office): 080-2594 3678/3663

Address of the Branch:
Building No.11/90, III Floor, Near Old Shivaji Theatre,
J C Road, Bengaluru -560 002
Contact: CCO: **Sri Srinivas Raghavulu**
Mb-91 9845503065, Tel.080-2594-3678/3663
e-mail Id: sbi.05173@sbi.co.in.

APPENDIX-IV A

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property on 25.04.2023

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSET UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISIO Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower, that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured creditor, the constructive Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of State Bank of India, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** basis on **25.04.2023** for recovery of **INR 2,49,75,773/-** (Rupees Two Crore Forty Nine Lakh Seventy Five Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Three only) as on 15.03.2023 + interest + expenses and costs, due to State Bank of India, Secured creditor from **Shri. Rajesh M S/o. Manjunath Reddy (Borrower)**.

The reserve price, earnest money deposit bid increment amount and last date for receipt of EMD will be as under:-

Property No.	Reserve Price (Below which the property will not be sold)	EMD	Bid increment	Last date for receipt of EMD
1	Rs.35,20,000/-	Rs.3,52,000/-	Rs.50,000/-	24.04.2023

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

I. Tender No: SBI/SARB/F5612/2023-24/857

Property No. 1 – (Title deed holder: Shri. Rajesh M S/o. Manjunath Reddy)

All that piece and parcel of Residential Apartment bearing Flat No. 401 (3 BHK) in Fourth Floor in the apartment building known as "Sri Sai Residency" constructed on Property having super built up area of 1330 sq feet, consisting of 3 Bedrooms, One Hall, One Kitchen cum Utility, One Pooja Room, One attached Bathroom cum toilet, One common bathroom cum toilet, Balcony with all civic amenities like Water, Sanitary and Electricity, Lift facilities, along with corresponding 273 sq feet of undivided share, right, title and interest in property bearing site No. 55, (earlier having Rajarajeshwari CMC Khata No. 400), formed out of converted Sy. No. 2/1, (Converted vide No.B.DIS.ALN/SR(S)299/96-97, dated: 10.03.1997, passed by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District), BBMP New Municipal No. 701/55, situated at Channasandra (Dwaraka Nagar) Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru District, now comes within the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Ward No. 160, Channasandra, Bengaluru, having Khatha No.701/55/701 and measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 60 feet in all measuring 2400 sq feet and bounded as East by: Site No. 56, West by: Site No. 54, North by: Road and South by: Site No. 77.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in State Bank of India www.sbi.co.in and MSTCE website www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp.

Date: 05.04.2023

Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
State Bank of India,
SARB, Bengaluru

 **MCBL™**

THE MALLESWARAM CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,
H. O. : # 102, 7th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore - 560 003, Ph- 080-23342713/
23342323, E- Mail : mcbl_mail@yahoo.com, Website : www.mcbl.in

POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8 (1)] (For Immovable property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **The Malleswaram Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Malleswaram Branch** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the undersigned borrowers/ legal heirs to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on below mentioned dates,

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **The Malleswaram Co-Operative Bank Ltd. Malleswaram Branch** for an amount mentioned below together with incidental expenses, cost, charges etc., till the date of realization.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

1. Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor Name and Address : 1. Sri. Ramesh B S/o Late B Boraiah
2. Sri/Smt. Shilpa B R W/o Ramesh B, both are residing at: No.66/1, 12th B Cross, Agrahara Dasarahalli, Bangalore North, Basaveshwaranagara, Bangalore-560079.

Demand Notice : 02.02.2023 **Possession Notice Dated: 05.04.2023**
Balance outstanding : Rs.70,69,169/- [Rupees Seventy Lakhs Sixty Nine Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Nine Only] as on **31.03.2023** and interest thereon.

Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the Eastern Portion of the Property Bearing No.52, Present No.66/1, Dr. Rajkumar BBMP Ward No.106, BBMP 2nd Division, Situated at Magadi Main Road, Agrahara Dasarahalli Village, Bengaluru PID No.21-77-66/1. Including all Rights, Privileges and Appurtenances thereto, constructed the site measuring, East to West : 16-04/1/2 Feet, North to South : 90 Feet and bounded as follows East by : Property of Narayan Shetty, West by : Western Portion of the Property belongs to Balaraju bearing No.5, Present No.52-56, North by: Road, South by : Magadi Main Road.

2. Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor Name and Address : 1.Sri. Sathyanarayana G S/o Gangesh, Mani, 2.Smt. Sumathi S W/o Sathyanarayana G, both are residing at: No.13, 'Shri Sathyanarayana Nilayam', 3rd Main, Chamundeshwari Layout, Vidyanarayapura, Bangalore-560097.

Demand Notice : 02.12.2022 **Possession Notice Dated: 05.04.2023**
Balance outstanding : Rs.58,78,451/- [Rupees Fifty Eight lakhs Seventy Eight thousand Four hundred and Fifty one Only] as on **31.03.2023** and interest thereon.

Description of the property: All that piece and parcel of the residential immovable Property Bearing Site No.13, Byatarayanapura CMC Katha No.455, Situated at Doddabommasandra Village Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore. BBMP Katha No 134/455/13. Including All Rights, Privileges and appurtenances thereto, constructed the site measuring East to West: 30 Feet, North to South : 49 Feet, Total area : 1470 Sq Feet and Bounded as Follows East by : Site No. 12, West by : Site No. 14, North by : B.venkattappa's Land, South by : 30 Feet Wide Road.

3. **Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor Name and Address :** Sri/Smt. Saraswathi W/o Late Ramachandraiah Since Deceased Represented by her Legal Heirs 1.Sri/Smt. Santosh R S/o Late Ramachandraiah 2. Sri/Smt. Deepa R D/o Late Ramachandraiah 3. Sri/Smt. Manjula R D/o Late Ramachandraiah 4. Sri/Smt. Rupa R D/o Late Ramachandraiah, **all are residing at:** No.2031, 1st Main Road, Kaval Byrasandra, RT Nagar, Bangalore-560032.

Demand Notice : 11.01.2023 **Possession Notice Dated: 05.04.2023**
Balance outstanding : Rs.67,54,034/- [Rupees Sixty Seven lakhs Fifty Four thousand and Thirty Four Only] as on 31/03/2023 and interest thereon.

Description of the property: All that piece and parcel of the residential immovable property bearing Municipal New No12 PID No 95-320-12, Situated at KHB Road Kaveri Nagar BBMP Ward no 95 Bangalore 560032 (Formerly Western Portion of Property Bearing no 5 Katha No 735/A Assessment no 38/2 Situated at 1st Main Road Kaveri Nagar BBMP Ward no 95, Situated at Nagawara Village Kasabha Hobli Bangalore North Taluk Present BBMP Katha No 12, KHB Road, Kaveri Nagar Kaval Bhayrandra Noh PID No 95-320-12 including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto, constructed on the site measuring: East to West: 50 feet, North to South: 40 feet, Total Area: 2000 Square feet, and bounded on: East by : Eastern Portion of property No 5 (Mrs Rupa), West by : Road, North by : Road, South by : Property of Sri Doddadasappa.

4. **Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor Name and Address :** 1. Sri/Smt. Shahada Khanum P W/o Jayawanth N 2. Sri/Smt. Jayawanth N S/o Narayana, both are residing at: No.47, 17th Cross, 8th Main, Brundavan Nagar, SBM Colony, Mathikere Bangalore-560054.

Demand Notice : 02.02.2023 **Possession Notice Dated: 05.04.2023**
Balance outstanding : Rs.1,25,95,407/- [Rupees One crore Twenty Five lakhs Ninety Five thousand Four hundred and Seven Only] as on **31/03/2023** and interest thereon.

Description of the property: All that piece and parcel of the residential immovable: **Item No.1:** Southern Portion of property bearing Site No.47(oid No.77/1), Situated at 7th Cross, Brindhavan Nagar, Mathikeri, Bangalore, PID No.2-196-47 including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto, constructed the site measuring East To West : 35 Feet, North to South: 14 Feet, Total area : 490 sq feet and bounded as follows East by : Private Property, West by : 20 Feet Road, North by : Remaining Northern Portion of the property No.47/1 belongs to me, South by : 30 feet Road.

Item No.2: Northern Portion of Property bearing Site No.47, PID No.2-196-47 Situated at 7th Cross, Brindhavan Nagar, Mathikere, Bangalore.

After Khatha Amalgamation Presently Bbmp Municipal No.47 (old No.1), Situated At 7th Cross, Brindhavan Nagar,

Mathikere, Bangalore. PID No:2-196-47. including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto, constructed the site measuring, East to West : 35 feet, North to South: 34 feet, total area : 1190 sq feet and bounded as Follows East by : Private Property, West by : 20 feet Road, North by : Sharif's Property, South by : Remaining Portion of the Same Property No.47.

5. Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor Name and Address : 1.Sri/Smt.Shobha S W/o Narayana C 2. Sri/Smt. Narayana C S/o Chandraiah, 3. Shreyas Gowda N. S/o Narayana C 4. Meghana N Gowda D/o Narayana C. No.164, Old No.106/2, 3rd Cross, Nethaji Road, Uttaralli, Bangalore 560061.

Balance outstanding : 1,61,64,794/- [Rupees One crore Sixty one lakhs Sixty Four thousand Seven hundred and Ninety Four Only] as on **31/03/2023** and interest thereon.

Description of the property: All that piece and parcel of the Residential Immovable Northern Portion of Property bearing No.3 & 4, New Khatha No.387/344/239/2/492, Old Khatha No.40/4, Situated at Uttarahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore. Presently BBMP Katha No 387/1/344/239/2/492/3&4/1, Including All Rights,

Privileges And Appurtenances thereto, Constructed The Site measuring East to West : 94 Feet, North to South : 20 Feet, Total Area : 1880 Sq Feet, and bounded as follows East by : Government Road, West by : Thimmakka's Property, North by : Thimmaiah & Thirumalamma Property, South by : Same No Remaining Property.

0. Borrower/Co-Borrower/Manager/Guarantor Name and Address : M/s Prameen Industries Represented by It's Managing Partner 1. Smt. Shantha Kumari O V W/o Late K V Chandran 2.Sri. Prameen Kumar K C S/o Late Chandran K V 3.Sri.Pradeesh Kumar K C S/o Late Chandran K V 4.Sri.Praneev Kumar K C S/o Late Chandran K V, all are residing at: No 33/2 Oshome Road, Sivan Chetty Garden, Bangalore-560042

Demand Notice : 08.12.2022 **Possession Notice Dated: 05.04.2023**
Balance outstanding : Rs. 6,09,79,283/- [Rupees Six Crore Nine lakhs Seventy Nine thousand Two hundred and Eighty Three, only] as on **31/03/2023** and interest thereon

Description of the property: All that piece and parcel of the residential immovable property bearing (Eastern Portion) Plot No.9-A, In Peenya 2nd Phase, Industrial Area, Situated in Sy. No.2 and 72, of Chokkasandra Village, Yeshwanthour Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, including all rights, privileges and appurtenances

thereto, constructed the site measuring : 75.12+73.62/2 X 51.40 = 3822.618 Sq Mtrs OR 40912 Sq FEET and bounded as follows East by : Road, West by : Plot No. 11, North by : Road, South by : Property belongs to M/s Mikron Tooling.

Date : 05.04.2023
Place: Bangalore

Authorized Officer
The Malleswaram Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

DELETING CONTENT FROM SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS IS PROBLEMATIC

Rewriting history as it sees it has always been part of the BJP's national agenda. If during Vajpayee's rule at the Centre it was done in a hurry, with Murlidhar Joshi becoming the mascot of saffronisation, the party's approach was subtler ever since it captured power in 2014. While nothing much happened in the first five years, the framing of the new National Education Policy (NEP) set the tone for restructuring education in a big way in 2020. The outbreak of Covid-19 and the widespread fretting over the curriculum volume and exam stress of students who lost school time due to the pandemic created the ideal platform for trimming textbooks. The government set up expert committees recommending rationalising content—from deleting sentences to purging paragraphs and even dropping chapters to reduce overlapping and/or irrelevant content in all textbooks for classes VI to XII. The NCERT released a comprehensive list of approved rationalisations last year. The current controversy concerns a few fresh deletions in the latest textbooks that did not figure on that list, which the board claimed was due to oversight.

To be fair, some of the editing does make sense, like taking the caste reference out on Mahatma Gandhi's assassin Nathuram Godse in the Class XII political science textbook. But snipping sentences on, say, Babu's attempt at Hindu-Muslim unity being frowned upon by radicals gives room to the interpretation of varnishing history. Messing with the Mahatma invariably goes politically south. The deletion of a sentence on the RSS being banned for some time after the assassination was only to be expected, given how conscious the Sangh is about image management. The axing of one of three chapters on Mughal history was explained as rationalisation. And a paragraph from the Class XI Sociology textbook on the 2002 Godhra riots that talks about the ghettoisation of Muslims was purged for obvious reasons.

The logic that history is written by the victor and the exercise is not entirely done objectively is well understood. But being frugal with facts to suit a narrative is also not done. Facts don't change, the spin does. The controversy now concerns editing, not spinning, as the NCERT is transitioning. Completely new books are being lined up from next year in line with the NEP if the opposition fails to get its act together and lets the BJP enjoy its third successive shot at power. That will be a totally different ball game.

Should defamation at all be a criminal offence? Has the time come for a constitutional court to read down Sections 499 and 500 out of the Indian Penal Code just as Section 377 was read down to decriminalise same-sex marriages?

Part of the reason defamation continues to be criminalised in India and other jurisdictions is the historical link between defamation and public disorder. The genesis of criminal defamation can be traced back to the 1275 Statute of Westminster, which created the offence of Scandalum Magnatum.

In his grand account of English Law, William Holdsworth notes that the defamation law's purpose was to safeguard the kingdom's security, for back then, many "great men" whose persons were injured with words were ready to resort to its arms to stitch back their tattered reputations.

During the time of King Henry VIII, the English Star Chamber became a forum for prosecuting critics of the monarch. That Star Chamber was abolished in 1641. The United Kingdom removed defamation as a crime in 2009. Other countries, such as New Zealand, Australia, Sri Lanka, and Maldives, have abolished this archaic criminal offence.

The historical justification underpinning this offence no longer exists. Is there any serious argument that can be made regarding defamatory statements leading to serious public disorder?

Given the 24x7 media ecosystem that we live in it is very easy for someone to take offence anywhere in the world and proceed to criminally prosecute the person who was the protagonist of that particular political articulation. In such a situation, a statement made in Malayalam in Thiruvananthapuram or Kanyakumari may invite a criminal complaint of defamation in Kashmir just because someone chose to feel offended reading the translation of that statement. That is when the process itself becomes the punishment.

First and foremost, treating defamation as a crime with attendant penal consequences for merely exercising the freedom of speech and expression provided for in Article 19(1)(a) of our Constitution is singularly conflicting, notwithstanding the reasonable restrictions that caveat the exercise of this right. Freedom of Speech and Expression is a right that is so sacrosanct that without it, democratic government is an impossibility. The chilling effect of criminal prosecution against political opponents and civil society activists spells the death knell on the doctrine of accountability in-

Free speech, especially in political matters and public affairs, is highly valued in any democratic society

A CASE FOR INDIA DECRIMINALISING DEFAMATION

MANISH TEWARI

Lawyer, MP, Former I&B Minister



SOUMYADIP SINHA

trinsic to any democracy. How can any representative order function if a person cannot critique the government or those in government for fear that the reprisals would be debilitating?

Second, unlike other crimes, criminal defamation is rarely decided with reference to the mental guilt of the accused, which is referred to as mens rea in legal parlance. In actual cases, this would have required courts to seek proof of knowledge of falsity or, at least, reckless disregard on the part of the accused. But such fundamental legal standards, unfortunately, are rarely applied and given a go-by.

International legal standards attest to the need to limit the remedy to defamation to civil action. The European Court of Human Rights notes that a prison sentence in defa-

mation cases is only permissible in exceptional circumstances where other fundamental rights have been impaired, such as hate speech or incitement to violence (*Paraskevopoulos v. Greece*, ECHR, 2018).

The UN Human Rights Committee observed that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966, to which India is a party, places a "particularly high value" upon uninhibited expression, especially in circumstances of public debate in a democratic society concerning figures in the political domain.

In *Sahib Singh v. State of Uttar Pradesh* (1965), the Supreme Court held that "the collection of persons must be identifiable in the sense that one could certainly say that this group of particular people has been defamed as distinguished from the rest of the

community". If a person complains that he has been defamed as a member of a class, he must establish the definite nature of that class and that the imputation was made against him personally. Indeed, a zealous disciple of a religious head is afforded no ground to prosecute for defamation even though the feelings of the disciple may have been hurt. (Vide: *Dhirendra Nath Sen and another v. Rajat Kanti Bhadra*, AIR 1970 Cal 216). Thus, class action suits or complaints on defamation were and continue to be proscribed by the apex court.

The House of Lords puts it best: "A class of persons cannot be defamed as a class, nor can an individual be defamed by a general reference to the class to which he belongs." (*Knupffer v. London Express Newspaper Ltd.*, 1944)

Lord Atkin makes it clear in *Knupffer* that the focus should ultimately be on whether the plaintiff was identified, not whether the plaintiff was a member of the group. In *Milkovich v. Lorain Journal Co.* (1990), the US Supreme Court ruled that mere insults, name-calling, "imaginative expression," and other forms of loose language are not actionable. It held that an assertion incapable of being proved true or false based on objective evidence is not actionable.

Free speech, especially in political matters and public affairs, is highly valued in any democratic society. Justice William Brennan Jr. of the US Supreme Court famously emphasised in *New York Times v. Sullivan* that "debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open" and that this "may well include vehement, caustic, and sometimes unpleasantly sharp attacks on government and public officials".

As Minister of Information and Broadcasting in the erstwhile UPA government, I had publicly advocated decriminalising defamation. Unfortunately, I could not get the requisite support from our colleagues, who then sat on the opposition benches for their support was critical for repealing the penal provisions about defamation.

My contention is, and was then too, that defamation is a civil wrong; therefore, the law on torts for pecuniary damages for defamation has to attain maturity, given the meagre compensation that is given in civil defamation matters, but the criminal aspect needs to be weeded out of our penal provisions at the earliest.

Decriminalising defamation, therefore, is an idea whose time has come.

(Views are personal)
(manishtewari01@gmail.com)

FOCUS BACK ON GROWTH AS RBI PAUSES RATE HIKE

As Keynes once said, it's the unexpected, always. As against a consensus estimate of a 25 bps repo rate hike on Thursday, the RBI decided to pause. In a further comforting development, it moderately lowered FY24 inflation estimates to 5.2%, yet, Governor Shaktikanta Das stressed that it was a temporary pause and not a pivot, where rate hikes end and rate cuts begin (and vice versa). Markets saw April's much-anticipated 25 bps rate hike as a parting shot to the ongoing tightening cycle. But the surprise moves to pause, and Das' repeated reminders about RBI's unfinished inflation fight eliminate that finality and lend uncertainty to the next course of monetary policy actions. Further, in a 5-1 split vote, RBI agreed to continue with its withdrawal of accommodation stance, allowing itself the flexibility to move in whichever direction incoming data and global developments take.

Several reasons influenced the rate pause. The government borrowing programme, which has just begun, needs support, with the 10-year yield already under pressure at 7.2-7.3%. RBI must also assess the impact of 2.9% effective rate hikes delivered so far. As Das reiterated, the increase in overnight call money rates stood even higher at 3.2%. These are rates at which banks and financial institutions borrow and lend, and it is also the operating target for monetary policy. Lastly, interest rate transmission is incomplete, yet rates have already touched FY19 levels. Given borrowers are seeing higher payouts amid price rise, it is prudent to pause and stimulate credit flow.

Among all, a rate pause hints at the central bank's focus on handholding growth. Any further hikes and sustained inflation could reduce purchasing power and dampen demand. So, some believe it is appropriate to prioritise growth and financial stability and not be influenced by other global central bank decisions or remain under stress due to supply-side inflation. By charting its own policy course, RBI has done a fine balancing act once again. But the big question is if we are done with the rate hikes. Bets are already on that it will be an extended pause or an end of the rate hike cycle, although Das remains reluctant to strike off rate hikes from his to-do list. It means predicting the June policy outcome, whether a hike, cut, or pause is down to the wire.

QUICK TAKE

CONTROL RISING MILK PRICES

Milk is dearer these days. The reasons are well known. The demand has caught up after shrinking during the pandemic lockdown. The farmers stopped rearing cattle and underfed extant calves—that's why milk output is still low. Podder prices have risen. The lumpy skin disease took its toll too. Milk production may improve in the calving season closer to Diwali. But before that, the government should temporarily allow the import of fat and skim milk powder to build a buffer stock for this summer. Farmers should get loans to increase herd sizes again and push for organising seasonal cattle markets.

MARKET POLICY PREROGATIVE OF THE EXECUTIVE, SEBI

Hindenburg Research's report and the subsequent volatility in share prices of Adani group companies triggered multiple writ petitions before the Supreme Court of India. The petitioners prayed for various reliefs, including a direction to the Centre to set up a committee to investigate the report's contents.

In its order dated February 10, 2023, the SC rightly noted a need to review existing financial regulatory mechanisms to ensure they are strengthened to protect Indian investors from market volatility. It even suggested to the Solicitor General to seek instructions from the Union of India on the constitution and remit of an expert committee.

In a subsequent order dated March 2, 2023, the SC noted that SEBI had already started investigating the allegations. It directed SEBI to investigate a few additional aspects raised by the petitioners without constraining the ongoing investigation. However, the court went further and constituted an expert committee. The wide mandate of this committee includes (a) providing an overall assessment of the situation, including the relevant causal factors which have led to the volatility in the securities market in the recent past; and (b) suggesting measures to strengthen investor awareness and the statutory and/or regulatory framework, and to secure compliance with the existing framework for the protection of investors.

This judicial order constituting an expert committee to recommend policy matters is problematic. First, a writ petition typically seeks a direction from a public authority to do or refrain from doing something. In this matter, nothing indicates that any authority refused to do or refrained from doing something, warranting action from the SC. The petitioners also do not appear to have prayed for a court-appointed committee.

Neither does the order specify the legal provision under which the expert committee is constituted. Assuming the court used its powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to achieve 'complete justice', the order does not explain why a committee with such a broad mandate was necessary in the facts of the case. This contrasts with the SC order dated January 12, 2021, in *Rakesh Vaishnav v. Union of India*, where it had set up an expert committee on farm laws. The court had categorically observed that the negotiations between the government and farmers' bodies had not yielded any results. That is why it constituted the expert committee to facilitate the negotiation process.



M S SAHOO
Distinguished Professor, National Law University, Delhi, and Former Chairperson, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India



PRATIK DATTA
Senior Research Fellow at Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co

Second, this order marks an unprecedented step towards judicial policymaking in the financial sector. Price volatility is an everyday affair. Courts usually do not intervene, though there are instances of parliamentary committees looking into major stock market crashes. Volatility is the essence of markets. Fluctuation in prices provides a system for aggregating information from numerous sources. This price system, along with volatility, is essential for the efficient allocation of resources in a market economy. Curbing volatility at the cost of price discovery would be antithetical to the securities market.



Protection of investors in the securities market is a self-enforcing norm. The executive has strong incentives to maintain confidence in the integrity of the securities market

Potential systemic concerns associated with abnormal volatility in financial markets are already addressed through sophisticated laws and institutions. Circuit breakers in the stock exchanges are one prime example. Capital controls seek to reduce exchange rate volatility by restricting the free convertibility of currency. Such laws and legal institutions result from deliberative policymaking across advanced economies over decades and keep evolving. Designing such laws and institutions involves numerous policy choices and tradeoffs, affecting many market players and stakeholders directly or indirectly. Such polycentric matters are best left to the wisdom of the legislature, executive, and regulators.

Third, market regulators like the SEBI deserve more judicial deference than guarantor institutions such as election commissions or anti-corruption bodies. Unlike market regulators, guarantor institutions are meant to provide credible and enduring guarantees to specific non-self-enforcing constitutional norms. Powerful actors may not always have the will as well as the ability to effectuate such norms. The judiciary may, therefore, have legitimate reasons to be more demanding with respect to guarantor institutions to help them preserve such non-self-enforcing norms.

Protection of investors in the securities market, however, is a self-enforcing norm. The executive has strong incentives to maintain confidence in the integrity of the securities market. If investors lost faith in the securities market due to abnormal volatility, it would reflect in the broader market indices and have swift electoral ramifications for the ruling power. Therefore, the incentives of both the executive and the securities regulator are sufficiently aligned to promote investor protection in the securities market. The judiciary need not expend its judicial capital on this front. It may instead defer to SEBI on this matter.

Fourth, the practical utility of forming the expert committee remains doubtful. The legislature and the executive may now prefer to wait on investor protection reforms until the court takes a view on the committee's findings. Stakeholders may seek similar relief from the SC in every other similar matter. If the expert committee suggests certain statutory or regulatory changes, it is unclear if the court would go on to direct the legislature or the SEBI to implement those suggestions through appropriate legislation or regulations. That would encroach into the policy domain of the legislature and the executive, undermining the delicate institutional harmony.

It is an accepted norm that the judiciary does not venture into the policy domain. Promoting investor protection and awareness in the securities market involves deeper policy choices. These are best left to the wisdom of the legislature, the executive, and the SEBI. Judicial capital has better uses elsewhere.

MAIL BAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Footage missing

That the CCTV footage of the Ambasadram custodial violence is missing is immensely shocking. The victims cannot expect genuine justice now. As custodial torture is burgeoning, an apex-level probe into the issue is key to unveil all the culprits behind the felony.

Thomas K M, Muvattupuzha

Onion market

Apropos of *Shifting onion market will hit traders* (Apr 5). The entire market is being operated on platforms and roads, affecting pedestrians and traffic to a great extent. Air pollution is also another hazard. The market can be allowed to continue if they operate their shops inside the buildings and keep the platforms free for pedestrians to walk.

M Lakshmanan, Madurai

ISRO's RLV-LEX

Apropos of *Reusable launcher offers myriad benefits* (Apr 5). The latest successful RLV-LEX experiment is another feather in the hat for ISRO. The advanced prototype, along with its advantages, highlights ISRO's modern technical and innovative capabilities, making us proud of the agency.

Gyan Chaturvedi, Vizianagaram

Police methods

It was very disturbing to see the security lapses while bringing the Kozhikode train attack accused Shahruck Saifi to Kerala. That only three policemen brought him in a car and it broke down twice, stranding them on the road for more than an hour, points to the shortcomings in police methods. In a case already shrouded in mystery, it's baffling how the police can adopt a lackadaisical attitude.

C M Umanath, Kozhikode

Opposition's strategy

Apropos of *Opposition gambit to rein in CBI, ED fails in SC* (Apr 6). Though political parties affirm that they fight for the burning issues faced by the common and poor people, it is deplorable that Parliament sessions are wasted on issues on freedom of speech and those related to legislators. That the SC said political leaders stand absolutely on the same footing as citizens instills confidence in the judiciary. Kudos to the Supreme Court!

S Arjun Prasanna, Bengaluru

Train safety

Apropos of *Kerala train violence: Beef up security now* (Apr 6). Only words and no work is the policy of the railways ministry. The railways minister is interested only in promoting Modi through the Vande Bharat inaugurations and is not concerned about the safety of passengers. Hope this editorial will prompt the ministry to act swiftly.

VO Harindranathan, Chennai

TWEETS
OF THE
DAY**Sitaram Yechury** @SitaramYechury
Reverse these unilateral changes in text books by the Union govt without any discussions/consultations with State govts or any of the stakeholders**Atishi** @AtishiAAP
Today on the occasion of Hanuman Jyototsav @ArvindKJain got a chance to receive Prasad in the Bhandara organized at Secretariat (Delhi)**Sushmita Dev** @SushmitaDevAITC
The party in power stalled Parliament on frivolous only to avoid a debate on the Adani issue. History will look back at this session as a dark period.

newindianexpress.com

09

BENGALURU

FRIDAY 07.04.2023

Oppn slams govt for House washout

Takes out Tiranga March from Parliament House to Vijay Chowk in a show of unity

PREETHA NAIR @New Delhi

SENDING a strong political message to the government that a united Opposition will continue to challenge it outside Parliament, several opposition parties including the Congress, TMC, BRS, AAP and Samajwadi Party, came together on Thursday and blamed the government for getting the second half of the Budget session washed out.

In a display of unity, at least 19 Opposition parties also held a 'Tiranga March' from Parliament House to Vijay Chowk. Later addressing the media along with other Opposition leaders, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge asserted that the Opposition is united and will strive towards saving the soul of the country.

"The Modi government talks about democracy. But they don't practice what they preach. For instance, the ₹50 lakh crore Budget was passed in 12 minutes without any debate. Then they shift the blame onto the Opposition for disruptions," he said, adding that the government intends to divert attention from issues raised by 19 parties on the Adani-Hindenburg row.

When asked if Adani and caste census would be key for the Opposition in the 2024 elections, Kharge said that all issues will be deliberated by presidents of the parties later. "Caste census is one of our foremost agenda," he said.

The Congress chief further said that the ruling party halting Parliament's proceedings



Mallikarjun Kharge

was somewhat unprecedented. "We were never allowed in the House to speak on key issues. It is the treasury Benches, which always lead the disruptions. This has happened for the first time in my political life of 52 years," he said.

The Congress chief sought to know why the Centre is shying away from setting up a joint parliamentary committee (JPC) probe even when the BJP will have majority.

"The BJP has majority in both the Houses. What are they scared of? That means something is amiss," Kharge said, adding that the only advantage is that the opposition will get a chance to go through all related documents, in case of a JPC probe.

Questioning the government on its double standards, Kharge pointed out that while Rahul Gandhi was disqualified as a member of Lok Sabha, at "lightning speed", BJP MP Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadia from Gujarat wasn't disqualified even after 16 days, after he was convicted and sentenced to three years by a court. His conviction was later quashed by the SC.

POWER CORRIDOR

LINKING OF AADHAAR DETAILS WITH VOTER ID CARD YET TO START: RIJJU IN RS

The government in the Rajya Sabha on the last day of Budget session told the House that the linking Aadhaar details with the voter identity card have not started yet. Informing this on Thursday, Union Law Minister Kiren Rijju said while noting that the exercise was "process driven" and no target or timelines have been given for the proposed linkage. The minister said that the names of those who do not link their Aadhaar details with the voters' list will not be struck off the electoral rolls. "Linking of Aadhaar is process driven and no targets or timelines have been given for linking Aadhaar with Electoral Photo Identity Card, which has not yet started so far," he said.

NO PROPOSAL TO TAKE HELP OF RETIRED JUDGES IN DRAFTING LEGISLATION: GOVT

The government on Thursday made it clear in the RS that there is no as such proposal to take the help of retired judges and senior advocates in drafting legislation. Union Law Minister Kiren Rijju in a reply informed that the Legislative Department in the Union Law Ministry has been taking necessary steps to ensure that legislative drafting is simple, precise and unambiguous. "Efforts are also being made to aim at clarity of expressions and use of appropriate words and expressions," the minister said. The minister was asked to reply whether the government has any proposal to take the assistance of retired judges as well as senior advocates in drafting new legislations for making them accurate.

INCREASE IN CBI'S CONVICTION RATE IN LAST FIVE YEARS: GOVT

Union Minister of State for Personnel Dr Jitendra Singh informed the Rajya Sabha that an increase in the conviction rate of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has gone up to 74.59 per cent in 2022 from 68 per cent in 2018. He said that the CBI's conviction rate was at 68 per cent in 2018, 69.19 per cent in 2019, 69.83 per cent in 2020, 67.56 per cent in 2021 and 74.59 per cent in 2022. The Union minister said that the directorate of prosecution in the CBI, with the assistance of additional legal advisers, deputy legal advisers, senior public prosecutors, public prosecutors and assistant public prosecutors, is responsible for conducting and supervising cases pending trial, appeal and revision in courts.

Compiled by Rajesh Kumar Thakur

Jairam, Scindia spar over history, and in bit of poetry

PREETHA NAIR @New Delhi

RANI LAXMI BAI must be flummoxed about how her name has been regularly banded, used and abused by politicians. The weapons have changed though. The war is not through shining swords but sarcasm dipped words. Centuries after she died, the latest war erupted between Jyotiraditya Scindia saying Congress only had one ideology which is that of a traitor.

Congress Spokesperson Jairam Ramesh hit back at Scindia sighting his forefathers' history of war with Rani of Jhansi and the alleged betrayal by Scindias.

The war of words reached a new low on Thursday with both tutoring each other on history and politics.

Scindia, once a close friend of Rahul Gandhi's, attacked Gandhi on Wednesday saying that 'Congress has been now left with only one ideology which is of a traitor, an ideology which works against the country'.

Scindia's comments, invited a sharp response from Congress, with Jairam Ramesh targeting Scindia back and former party colleague Ghulam Nabi Azad, saying both have been huge beneficiaries of the Congress party and its leadership.

"With every passing day, they give powerful evidence that this generosity to them was undeserved. They reveal their true character which



they kept hidden for so long," he said.

Ramesh in a tweet, also asked Scindia if he had forgotten Subhadra Kumari Chauhan's poem on Rani of Jhansi. The poem also referred to the Scindia family, the rulers of Gwalior, as friends of the British.

"Has he forgotten Subhadra Kumari Chauhan's immortal poem on the Rani of Jhansi?" Ramesh tweeted. "Scindia, the friend of the British, had left his capital; we heard the story from the mouths of the Bundela warriors; she fought gallantly, she was the queen of Jhansi," Ramesh said in the tweet in Hindi.

Scindia, a long-time ally of Congress, quit the party along with 22 MLAs and joined BJP leading to the collapse of the Kamal Nath government in Madhya Pradesh in 2020.

Scindia retorted with a series of tweets and asked Ramesh to 'read history more than poetry'. To buttress his argument, Scindia also posted excerpts from Jawaharlal Nehru's 'Glimpses of World History'. "Thus they (Marathas)



had practically inherited the Delhi Empire. The Marathas remained to challenge British supremacy. But the Maratha power went to pieces after the death of Mahadji Scindia."

"The Marathas defeated the British in the South in 1782. In the north, Scindia of Gwalior was dominant and controlled the poor hapless Emperor of Delhi," said another excerpt.

Responding to Scindia's tweets, Ramesh said, "Pick up any history book and all historians are unanimous on the issue of betrayal with Rani Jhansi in 1857."

"Your new God Savarkar has also mentioned Scindia's betrayal of Rani Laxmibai, Taty Tope, and others in his book. Read history," said Ramesh in the tweet. Ramesh also posted an old video of Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan talking about how Scindias had helped the British and betrayed Rani Laxmibai.

Taking a swipe at the former Union minister, Scindia asked him not to indulge in 'divisive' politics.

Trial of 8 Indian Navy veterans jailed in Qatar gets underway

YESHI SELI @New Delhi

IN the third week of March when individual charges were framed against the eight former Indian naval veterans in Doha, they were made to sign some documents by the Qatari authorities. Details of these are not known.

Judicial trial based on the Qatar law has begun and the first hearing has already been conducted.

"There was uncertainty when the bail applications were being rejected continuously for months. Yet there was some hope of repatriation. After the Qatari court announced individual charges against the veterans, the optimism faded away. The officers have no clue what charges have been levelled against them," said a source.

The first hearing took place on March 29 under the charges levelled against these veterans. The officials are in touch with their families, but are tight lipped about the charges. The next hearing will come up this month.

Meanwhile, Congress MP, Jairam Ramesh, voiced concern on why despite India having good diplomatic relations with Qatar was not successful in repatriating the naval veterans. "Friendly relations between two countries does not imply that people

No way home

● Around midnight of August 30 there was a knock on the door of each of the naval veterans. Qatar Interior ministry officials told them that they had to accompany them for a training.

● The officials never returned home and were kept in solitary confinement.

● Families began to lose patience after a month got over and the first hearing for a bail plea was held – a month later.

● First consular access was given on October 3. Eight bail pleas have been rejected. They were working for Dhara Consultancies for over five years. The CEO of the company an Omani Emir also came down to Doha to get his officials out but he was kept in solitary confinement too for two months after which he was released on bail.

● Families of the officials are permitted weekly meetings and home-cooked food was available until now

are above law. If there is a judicial process that needs to be followed it will take its course," said Ministry of External Affairs Arindam Bagchi in response to Jairam Ramesh.

Restore quota for Muslims in K'taka, BSP MP tells Modi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

BSP MP Kunwar Danish Ali on Thursday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and urged him to restore the recently scrapped scholarship schemes for minorities as well as reinstate the four per cent reservation to Muslim OBCs in Karnataka.

Ali, who represents Amroha Lok Sabha constituency, also discussed various issues concerning minorities including the demand of a medical college in Jamia Millia Islamia and matters related to his constituency.

The MP handed over a letter of his demand to Modi.

In his letter, Ali said that reservation to Muslim OBCs gave education and job opportunities to the weaker sections of the minority community hence must be reinstated. "The 4% reservation to Muslim OBC must be reinstated as it gave education and job opportunities to the weaker sections of the minority community. The restoration of this quota will give credence to your commitment to the upliftment of Pasmanda Muslims," his letter read.

Among the demands that Ali put forward before the prime minister included providing scholarships to the meritorious minority community students.

First batch of women officers in Army's combat stream set to join duty in May

MAYANK SINGH @New Delhi

THE Indian Army has allocated the first batch of women officers to join its combat stream in May. It was in January that the Indian Army decided to induct women into the Regiment of Artillery.

"Of the close to 40 women officers about to pass out of the Officers Training Academy (OTA), Chennai, close to 10 officers have been allotted the Artillery," said a source.

The passing out parade at the OTA will be held this month-end when the trainee officers will be commissioned into the various arms of the Indian Army. After spending some time at home on leave, the officers will report to their assigned units.

The Indian Army decided in January to begin the induction of women into combat arms in the near future beginning with the Regiment of Artillery.

As per the Ministry of Defence, the combat employment philosophy of women in the armed forces is an evolving process being regularly reviewed by them.

The Regiment of Artillery is said to be the second largest arm of the Indian Army with close to 300 units, after the infantry. Artillery with its missiles, guns, mortars, rocket launchers and unmanned aerial vehicles is also described as an 'Arm of Decision'.

As of now, the women officers have not been granted permanent commissions into In-

Poised to join 'Arm of Decision'



■ Around 40 women officers are about to pass out. Close to 10 of them will join Artillery

■ The Regiment of Artillery is said to be the second largest arm with close to 300 units, after the infantry.

■ Artillery is also described as an 'Arm of Decision'

■ There are 1,705 women officers into 10 arms and service

Yet to be granted permanent commission

As of now, the women officers have not been granted permanent commissions into Infantry, Armoured, Artillery and Mechanised Infantry. The Indian Navy has already deputed 28 women officers onboard ships. Women officers are also deployed in combat roles onboard naval aircraft/ship-borne helicopters

fantry, Armoured, Artillery and Mechanised Infantry.

There are 1,705 women officers in the Indian Army into 10 arms and services viz. Corps of Engineers, Corps of Signals, Army Air Defence, Army Service Corps, Army Ordnance Corps, Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers, Army Aviation Corps, Intelligence Corps, Judge Advocate General Branch and Army Ed-

ucation Corps in addition to the Armed Forces Medical Services.

The Indian Air Force pioneered in inducting women into combat roles beginning with three women officers commissioned as fighter pilots in June 2016. IAF has commissioned 15 women fighter pilots to date. Women officers are now being inducted in all combat roles into the force.

The Indian Navy, from December 2022, has decided to open every branch of the service, including the Submarine and Aviation, for its women officers and the Personnel Below Officers' Rank (PBOR) from 2023 pursuant to its gender-neutral approach.

The Indian Navy has already deputed 28 women officers onboard ships. Women officers are also deployed in combat roles onboard naval aircraft/ship-borne helicopters.

IMPLANTS TO RELY ON BLOOD SUGAR

Implanted medical devices in the future could be powered by electric currents generated by tiny fuel cells that themselves are implanted — and these cells will generate the electricity from the patient's own blood sugar. ETH Zurich researchers have developed a prototype of the fuel cell which can be implanted just under the skin. This fuel cell can convert blood sugar from the patient's body into electricity. The implanted cell uses excess blood sugar (glucose) from the body tissues to generate the electrical energy. The potentials are many. For instance, in diabetic patients the fuel cell can produce insulin at the touch of a button to lower blood glucose levels.

NEW SPERM SELECTION METHOD FOR BETTER IVF SUCCESS RATE



The new microfluidic sperm selection device, developed at University of Technology Sydney, provides a more reliable process for selecting high-quality sperm — which can lead to higher conception rates in IVF treatments

A new technology has been developed that will see a higher success rate of conception among childless couples undergoing in-vitro fertilisation (IVF). A World Health Organisation (WHO) estimate indicates that one in six people globally are affected by infertility. There is also a 78% failure rate in IVF treatment. Partly, this is because of poor sperm quality in the males in among the couples seeking the treatment to beget children. Now, researchers from University of Technology Sydney (UTS) and its nurtured start-up, NeoGenix Biosciences, have tested a new microfluidic sperm selection device that provides a more reliable process for selecting high-quality sperm, which can lead to higher conception rates in IVF treatments. The new technology is a 3D printed, biologically inspired microfluidic sperm selection device, which replicates the female reproductive tract and the natural sperm selection process.



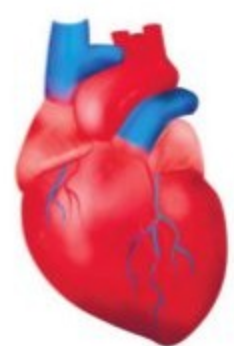
Science is a world in itself. Here are some interesting facts that connect with you

Nirad Mudur

A 'MINI HEART' IN A PETRI DISH TO STUDY EARLY HEART DEVELOPMENT

Researchers at Technical University of Munich (TUM) have developed a human heart in a petri dish by inducing stem cells.

This has allowed the researchers to closely study the early development of the heart, besides making it conducive to conduct research on congenital heart diseases and find treatment modules. Normally, the heart of a human foetus starts developing in the very early stages of pregnancy when the woman is not even aware of her pregnancy. This makes it difficult to study the live development of the heart when in its early stages. The TUM's experiment not only facilitates close study of the heart's early development, but also provides a template to develop human hearts in a petri dish for continuous studies. The TUM method involves use of pluripotent stem cells (cells that can form into any organ of the body) and adding signaling pathways in the human body that control the human heart's development. The TUM team is the first in the world to successfully create a "mini heart", which does not pump blood, but can be electrically stimulated to emulate heart movements.



	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	34	22	Mumbai	34	25
Bhopal	29	18	Panaji	29	23
Jaipur	29	18	Patna	31	20
Amritsar	26	14	Lucknow	28	19
Chennai	32	26	Port Blair	32	25
Kolkata	30	22	Imphal	25	13
Srinagar	16	07	Chandigarh	24	16

Akal Takht rules out Amritpal meet on Baisakhi day

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

AKAL Takht (the highest temporal seat of Sikhs) Jathedar (high priest) Giani Harpreet Singh has scheduled the 'Gurmat Samagam' on Baisakhi (April 13) at Takht Damdama Sahib in Talwandi Sabo near Bathinda, almost ruling out the chances of calling Sarbat Khalsa (religious congregation) as demanded by radical preacher and fugitive Amritpal Singh.

A statement issued by the Jathedar has appealed to the people to attend the religious meeting in huge numbers. He said he was already organizing a programme on the current situation in Punjab and the role and status of Punjabi media on April 7 at Talwandi Sabo in which journalists have been invited.

Ahead of gatherings, a heavy police force has been deployed at Talwandi Sabo to maintain law and order and face any untoward situation. The police anticipate that Amritpal Singh might surrender before the

Jathedar during the event.

The state and Central intelligence agencies are on alert. Sikh organization Dal Khalsa has opposed the convening of Sarbat Khalsa on Baisakhi (April 13) at Takht Damdama Sahib in Talwandi Sabo near Bathinda, almost ruling out the chances of calling Sarbat Khalsa (religious congregation) as demanded by radical preacher and fugitive Amritpal Singh.

Agencies on alert

The state and Central intelligence agencies are on alert. Sikh organization Dal Khalsa has opposed the convening of Sarbat Khalsa on Baisakhi (April 13) at Takht Damdama Sahib.

sions," he added.

The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee has said that convening of Sarbat Khalsa is the sole prerogative of the Akal Takht. Amritpal Singh earlier sought meet to discuss issues concerning the Sikh community.

Bengal Guv calls for peace and harmony, visits troubled areas

PRANAB MONDAL @ Kolkata

AMID security arrangement involving central police force during a religious event in the state, West Bengal governor C.V. Ananda Bose visited different parts of the city, ranging from minority dominated pocket to the area known as non-Bengali stronghold, and reviewed security arrangement on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti on Thursday. He interacted with locals, children, roadside stall owners and security personnel.

Delivering a message of harmony, Bose said, "Ishwar Allah tera naam, sabko sanmati de Bhagaban (Your names Ishwar and Allah, o god give the sense of good to all)."

Bose's remark is said to be significant as the state recently witnessed communal discord and violence between two groups during Ram Navami processions in Howrah and Hooghly. When the ruling Trinamool Congress held the BJP responsible for the incident, the saffron camp accused chief minister Mamata Banerjee and her party of appeasing a particular community.

The governor first visited the Bal Hanuman temple in Lake Town, then Ekbalpore, a minority dominated pocket and interacted with the locals.

U'khand turns Mughal rule into 'really history'

Pushkar Singh Dhama's move comes after UP govt's decision

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

HOW Islam emerged and what was the contribution of the Mughal rulers in the history of India?" the school children of Uttarakhand will no longer get to read such chapters in history books. After this decision of the state government, the history of Mughal rulers has become "really history" for school children.

In neighbouring Uttar Pradesh, the students of Class 10th to 12th, all the streams of UP Secondary Education Board (UPSEB) would not be reading history related to Mughal courts, industrial revolution and the Partition of the country, as per NCERT prescription.

However, the teachers of UP Board felt that the changes in the syllabus in the science subjects would have an adverse impact on students preparing for NEET. Meanwhile, commenting on the changes, UPSEB secretary Dibyakant Shukla said that the students of UP Board would read the books of NCERT with the changes from the academic session 2023-24 as the UP Board students go by the NCERT syllabus.

In Uttarakhand, according to the information received in the state capital, "Children of the



'Ammi & abbu called into question'

DEHRADUN: Words ammi & abbu have been printed in place of mother and father in the ICSC Board's Class II English book. On this, a parent contacted the District Magistrate and raised his objection. Parent Manish Mittal told District Magistrate Sonika that their child suddenly started calling his parents 'ammi & abbu'. The guardian asked the DM to remove the such text or replace it with the word 'mother' and 'father' according to the English language.

effective in terms of changing the perspective," state Director General of Education Banshidhar Tiwari told this daily. "The NCERT syllabus needs to be studied now, definitely new subjects must have been added to it," said Tiwari.

When contacted by this newspaper, BJP state spokesperson Virendra Bisht said, "CM Dhama is also focusing on teaching what is inspirational for children. Children behave according to what will be taught and what will be given in studies. Mughals can neither be an inspiration nor a source of inspiration. Therefore, the removal of the Mughal period chapter is a welcome step," said Bisht.

Slain Pandit bank guard's family to get house in Jammu

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

FAMILY of Kashmiri Pandit bank guard Sanjay Sharma, who was shot dead by militants near his residence in Pulwama in Kashmir last month, has been assured of accommodation in Jammu by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha while the family has applied for migration to Jammu. Sinha met the family members of Sanjay at Raj Bhan in Jammu today.

Sanjay was killed by militants near his residence in Achen village of Pulwama on February 26. He is survived by wife and three kids — Sakshi Sharma (class 4), Diksha Sharma (class 1) and 2-year-old son Shriyan Sharma. After Sanjay's death, his family and two brothers have left Kashmir and moved to Jammu.

"We fear returning to Kashmir as we had never thought that 33 years after not migrating from Valley, our brother will be shot dead," Bhushan said. He said the Lt Governor has assured Sanjay's wife of providing government job so she could take care of family.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah offers flowers at Lord Hanuman's idol after unveiling the 54-ft-tall statue at Salangpur on 'Hanuman Jayanti', in Botad district, Gujarat on Thursday | PTI

'Cong dragged Ram Mandir in courts'

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday criticized Congress on Ram temple, seeking to remind it that the party prolonged the issue in courts.

"Then, Modi ji came. One morning, the Supreme Court order came. Modi ji performed the bhoomi puja for 'Ram Lalla' temple, unleashing the construction work," he said.

Many important decisions made by the Modi government predicted riots if the issues such as Article 370 and Ram Janmabhoomi were touched.

Nothing of the sort happened, said Shah. On the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti, Shah addressed a gathering and unveiled a 54-ft tall statue of Lord Hanuman at Sarangpur temple in Botad district of Gujarat.

Shah said the Modi government's decision to repeal Article 370 had the complete support of the people.

"They threatened that if Article 370 is repealed, rivers of blood will flow in Kashmir and that riots will break out if the Ram Janmabhoomi verdict was delivered and a temple was built there. No one today even dares to toss a pebble, forget

rivers of blood and rioting," said Shah. He indirectly criticized Congress for "promoting" the Mughal history.

"In the past, if foreign leaders traveled to Gujarat, Sidi Saiyyed Ni Jali and the Taj Mahal replicas were given to them. "Nothing's wrong with that. But nowadays, giving copies of the Bhagwad Gita to these visitors gives one a great deal of happiness, Shah remarked.

"During PM Modi's nine-year rule, 360 idols, some of which were more than 1,000 years old, were brought back and reinstalled back in temples," he said.

MP Cong likely to rope in starlets, social media icons for assembly polls

ANURAG SINGH @ Bhopal

THE weakest assembly seats for the Congress may well see the most surprising faces as candidates of the grand old party in the year end polls in BJP-ruled Madhya Pradesh.

According to sources, the party is exploring the possibility of fielding newcomers, including young faces from film and television world (who may be new to politics, but their families have been sworn Congress ideology backers from generations) on the weakest seats.

The new candidates, may also include social media icons/influencers and celebrity orators, who have a big fan following.

These saffron strongholds on which BJP has been invincible since decades are particularly spread in Malwa-Nimar, Bundelkhand, Vindhya and Central MP regions.

There are around 66 weak seats, which the Congress has failed to win since the last two to six or eight polls. Such seats,

include Govindpura seat of Bhopal which has been BJP's citadel since 1980, Rehli in Sagar district of Bundelkhand, where the party has been losing to BJP since 1985, Indore-II, Khandwa (BJP winning since 1990), Indore-II and Sagar seats (saffron forts since 1993), Narayali, Indore-V, Neemuch and Jawad (BJP winning since 2003) and Mandasaur and Narela-Bhopal (won by sitting BJP MLAs since 2008).

State Congress president Kamal Nath has made it clear multiple times that candidates on the weakest seats would be decided first (six months before polls). Former CM and Rajya Sabha member Digvijaya Singh has been tasked with preparing the party on these seats. He is regularly touring these constituencies and holding open dialogues with party workers there.

State Congress sources also claimed that the party may not only finalize candidates first on the 60-odd weak seats, but also on 30-40 seats, which are it's strongest bets.

Mango turning sour: Weather ruins 25% crops in UP

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

EXPECTING a bumper crop this year, the mango growers of Uttar Pradesh, who were upbeat a fortnight earlier, are now keeping their fingers crossed as the unseasonal rains have already destroyed 20-25 per cent of the crop which was in flowering mode across the state.

As per an estimation of the Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture (CISH), while the state-wide damage to the crop was up to 25%, the production in Mal-Malhabad belt, one of the largest producers of mangoes in the state, may be to the tune of 35 per cent due to rains, hailstorm and high-speed winds lashing the crop.

In fact, UP holds a pole position in mango production in the country. According to Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, UP contributes around 24 per cent to the total country-wide production. It is also the largest producer of premium dussehari mangoes.

In Malhabad belt, replete with huge orchards, mango crop covers an area of over 31,000 hectare. A huge chunk of population of Lucknow Mango



Untimely showers lead to diseases such as anthracnose infection in fruits

'UP holds pole position in mango production'

UP holds pole position in mango production in the country. According to Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, UP contributes around 24 per cent to the total country-wide production. It is also the largest producer of premium dussehari mangoes. In Malhabad belt, mango crop covers an area of over 31,000 hectare.

belt comprising Malhabad, Kakori, Mal, Mohanlalganj, Barabanki and Sitapur, owns mango orchards. The mango growers like Kanhaiya Lal of Mal and Khaleel Mirza of Malhabad bank upon mango production as their earnings sustain them throughout the year.

As per CISH director T Damodaran, eight teams of scientists were set up to ascertain the losses in state's mango producing districts including Sitapur, Malhabad, Barabanki, Bijnor, Bulandshahr, Muzaffarnagar, Shahjahanpur, Shamli, Varanasi and Kushina-

gar among others. "It was found that Mal-Malhabad region in Lucknow belt had suffered more damages (35%) than other districts which witnessed damage up to 20-25%," said Damodaran.

According to CISH scientists, unseasonal rains have affected mango flowering in various ways, leading to fungal disease. Anthracnose infection in fruits, blossom blight and powdery mildew are among most common diseases caused due to untimely rain.

"Even the chemical and pesticides used during the fruit setting period to protect the crop get washed away and become ineffective by unseasonal rains. This impacts the yield and its quality as well," says Dr Awdhesh Mishra, an agriculture scientist.

"While we were expecting high yield this year, but unseasonal rains have shattered all our dreams," says Insam Ali, president of All India Mango Growers' Association. He adds that the second and third consecutive showers, followed by hailstorm in March, turned the panicles black and now they may or may not develop into healthy fruit.

Pawar upset with import of dairy items, says it will impact domestic producers

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

NCP chief and former Union agriculture minister Sharad Pawar has written to the Union ministry of animal husbandry and dairying requesting it to reconsider its decision of importing dairy products like butter and ghee.

"Such a decision is totally unacceptable because the import of these products will directly affect the income of the domestic milk producers. The dairy farmers have recently come out of the unprecedented Covid-19 crisis and such a decision will severely impede the revival process of the dairy sector," he tweeted.

The NCP supreme said he had come across news that such a move was on the cards.

"Any decision by the Central government in this regard will be totally unacceptable because the import of these products will directly affect the income of the domestic milk producers. The dairy farmers have recently come out of the unprecedented Covid-19 crisis and such a decision will severely



impede the revival process of the dairy sector," he wrote.

"My concern may please be heeded. I shall be happy if the matter is looked into and the ministry deters itself from taking any decision to import the milk products," reads the letter.

On Wednesday, media reports had quoted animal husbandry and dairying secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh as saying that the country may look at importing dairy products if needed as there is a supply constraint for such items due to milk production remaining stagnant in the last fiscal.

"The government will intervene to import dairy products like butter and ghee, if required, after assessing the stock position of milk in southern states, where the flushing (peak production) season has started now," he said.

Addressing a press conference, Singh said the country's milk production remained stagnant in the 2022-23 fiscal due to lumpy skin disease in cattle, while the domestic demand grew by 8-10 per cent in the same period due to a rebound in the post-pandemic demand. "There is no constraint in milk supply as such in the country...There is an adequate inventory of skimmed milk powder (SMP). But in the case of dairy products, especially fats, butter and ghee etc, the stocks are lower than the previous year," he said.

The 2022 lumpy skin disease outbreak in India resulted in the death of over 97,000 cattle in three months between July and September 23. Starting from Gujarat and Rajasthan, in three months, cattle in 15 states were affected.



SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI

Our correspondent in Maharashtra

suryawanshi.sudhir@gmail.com

Fadnavis cornered by Oppn over 'inaction'

Maharashtra deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis was cornered by the Opposition over inaction by police against the Shiv Sena workers who assaulted Roshani Shinde, a woman leader in Uddhav Thackeray faction women wing leader in Thane — Chief Minister Eknath Shinde's constituency and bastion. According to people close to Devendra Fadnavis, who is also the home minister of the state, has clarified within the party and with select few in the Opposition that when it comes to Thane, he has no power to do anything unless approved by CM Eknath Shinde.



Thackeray to continue to lead MVA

Former chief minister Uddhav Thackeray will lead the Maha Vikas Aghadi in Maharashtra against the BJP in the upcoming elections. In the recent rally of MVA in Aurangabad, now Sambhajinagar, the NCP and Congress leaders appreciated the work of Uddhav Thackeray done during the pandemic and projected him as a good man. MVA plans to garner sympathy on Uddhav Thackeray's name to fight the elections. MVA in the state has virtually accepted the leadership of but it is not sure whether Uddhav Thackeray will again be chosen as the CM if MVA returns to power. The real power game will be discussed after the election result.

Ministers prefer private offices over secretariat

Under the Eknath Shinde-led government in Maharashtra, except cabinet meetings, a majority of ministers have started skipping work. Instead of coming to work at the mantralaya (secretariat), the ministers prefer to attend to business from either their district or private office. Therefore, the common man has to run pillar to post to get their work done. Earlier, ministers used to attend their offices in mantralaya at least three to four days a week with weekends spent in their respective constituencies. But things are now different in the Shinde-BJP led government.



RBI DECISIONS

Lower oil price assumption to affect inflation projections

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @Mumbai

The Reserve Bank of India's decision to lower oil price assumption is likely to have favourable effect on inflation projections. The central bank has assumed the crude price at \$85 a barrel from \$95 a barrel earlier.

Due to the change in key macroeconomic and financial variables over the past six months, the RBI has made revisions in the baseline assumptions for projections.

"Taking into account these developments, crude prices (Indian basket) are assumed at \$85 per barrel in the baseline as compared with \$105 in the September MPR (Monetary Policy Report) September 2022 baseline," said RBI in its recent Monetary Policy report.

"Taking into account these factors and assuming an annual average crude oil price (Indian basket) of \$85 per barrel and a normal monsoon, CPI inflation is projected to moderate to 5.2 percent for 2023-24; with Q1 at 5.1 percent; Q2 at 5.4 percent; Q3 at 5.4 percent; and Q4 at 5.2 percent," it added.

Several experts have earlier said that there was a need to revise assumption for crude oil as prices did not move up in the past. The average price of India's crude oil basket in March was \$78.54 a barrel, down from \$82.28 in February, according to data from the government's Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell. The September 2022 edition of the RBI's Monetary Policy Report had assumed \$100 per barrel as the average price of India's crude oil basket for the second half of 2022-23.

From 'Taxi' to 'Take off', Air India completes phase 1 of transformation

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @New Delhi

AIR INDIA (AI) said on Thursday it has begun the second phase of its 5-year transformation plan Vihaan.AI, named as the 'Take Off' chapter. In this phase, Air India is expected to complete the consolidation of its airline business, develop a world-class institute for training and build on the momentum seen in the first phase.

Air India had ordered a record number of aircraft from Boeing and Airbus; committed \$400 million to refurbish existing aircraft and hired 3,800 new employees in first phase, which is called the 'Taxi' chapter. "Take Off is focussed on building the right platforms and progress faster based on the momentum that has been established. This phase will also witness the consolidation of the group airlines AirAsia India and Air India Express," said Air India in a statement.

"During this Taxi phase, we have also come a long way in establishing foundations for growth...As we move into our Take Off phase, we will start seeing these investments bear fruit," said Campbell Wilson, CEO & MD, Air India said.

Online delivery platform Dunzo fires 300; secures \$75 million funding

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @Bengaluru

ONLINE delivery platform Dunzo has reportedly fired 30% of its workforce or nearly 300 employees. It is said that the layoffs were to cut costs and also streamline the start-up's operations.

The start-up is said to have raised \$75 million via convertible notes. Dunzo declined to comment on both layoffs and fundraising.

In January, Dunzo fired 3% of its workforce or 80 employ-

RBI allows credit lines through UPI

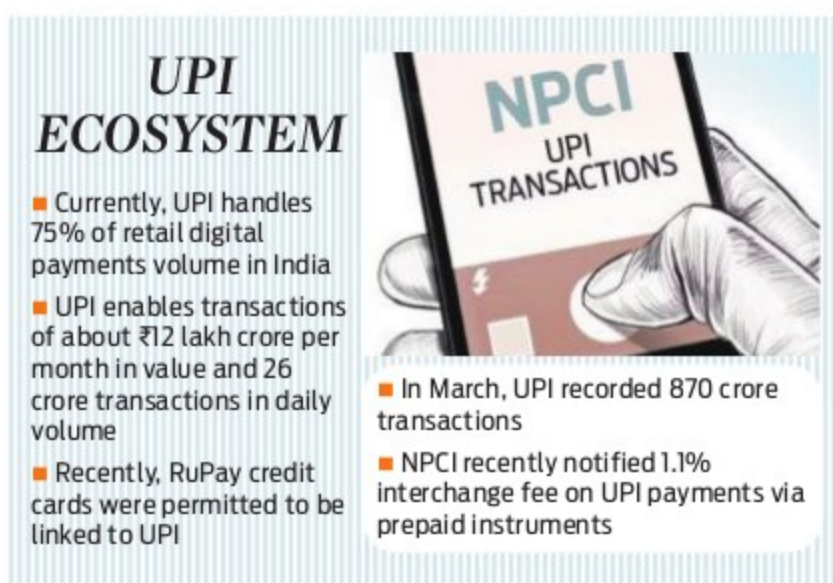
Experts say decision will help borrowers easily use their credit lines to pay vendors

UMA KANNAN @Bengaluru

THE scope of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is now getting expanded as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Thursday proposed to permit operation of pre-sanctioned credit lines at banks through the UPI.

Experts say this will help borrowers easily use their credit lines to pay vendors. "This initiative will further encourage innovation," said RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das while announcing the decisions of the bi-monthly MPC meeting.

"UPI has transformed retail payments in India. UPI's robustness has been leveraged to develop new products and features from time to time," he said. Recently, RuPay credit cards were permitted to be linked to UPI. This was in addition to the existing facility of linkage of UPI with deposit accounts. After this move, NPCI



(National Payments Corporation of India) and payment aggregators collaborated to support credit transactions on UPI. Currently, UPI handles 75% of the retail digital payments volume in India. "UPI system has been leveraged to develop prod-

ucts and features aligned to India's digitalisation goals. UPI network will facilitate payments financed by credit from banks. This can cut cost of such offerings and help develop unique products," the RBI said. Rajesh Sabhlok, MD, Asia Pa-

cific, Vymo, said this move will benefit everyone involved in lending process - the lender, borrower, and borrower's payee - as they would be connected on the same platform. "This would save time and money for everyone involved. The proposal should be extended to NBFCs that offer revolving credit products to retail and small business customers," he added.

Experts said this decision will re-ignite digital lending. "This has the potential to drive transformational growth for the BNPL lending sector," said Harish Prasad, head of banking, India, FIS. RBI has decided to develop a web portal to enable search across multiple banks for possible unclaimed deposits. This will help depositors or beneficiaries in getting back their unclaimed deposits, and as per experts, this is a forward step towards depositor protection and awareness.

EXPRESS READ

HC rejects PhonePe's trademark lawsuit

BENGALURU: Bombay HC has dismissed interim injunction application filed by PhonePe against PostPe, the buy now, pay later arm of Resilient innovations (BharatPe). PhonePe had sought injunction, among other reliefs, for restraining use of PostPe. ENS

CCI approves SREI Infra Finance acquisition

NEW DELHI: Fair-trade regulator CCI on Thursday said it has approved the acquisition of SREI Infrastructure Finance by National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd and India Debt Resolution Company Ltd. The deal has been cleared under the green channel route. PTI

Govt revises domestic gas pricing guidelines; CNG, PNG to cost less

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @New Delhi

THE government on Thursday approved a revised natural gas pricing formula and imposed ceiling price to help cut CNG and piped cooking gas prices.

As per the new guidelines, for the gas produced by ONGC & OIL from their nomination blocks, the administered price mechanism (APM) price should be subject to a floor and a ceiling. The price of natural gas produced from legacy or old fields should be 10% of the monthly average of Indian Crude Basket and should be notified on a monthly basis.

I&B Minister Anurag Thakur told reporters after the Cabinet meeting the natural gas produced from legacy or old fields, known as APM gas, will now be indexed to price of imported crude oil instead of benchmarking it to gas prices in four surplus nations like the US, Canada and Russia.

The rate arrived at will be capped at \$6.5 per million British thermal unit. There will be a floor price of \$4 per mmBtu. The ceiling price is lower than the current rate of \$8.57 per mmBtu and will translate into a reduction in prices of PNG as well as CNG sold to automobiles, he said. Thakur said

prices of PNG will fall by up to 10% across cities, while CNG will see a little lower reduction. PNG and CNG rates have jumped in last one year.

Currently, Indian crude oil basket is priced at \$85 per barrel and 10% of that translates into a price of \$8.5 but the cap would mean for the APM gas produces, ONGC and Oil India will get only \$6.5 per mmBtu. He said these caps and floor prices will be for two years and rates will increase by \$0.25 per mmBtu a year thereafter.

The revised gas pricing formula is based on the recommendations of Kirit Parikh committee.

Speciale Invest's new growth fund to propel deep-tech startups

HRITHIK KIRAN BAGADE @Bengaluru

SPECIALE Invest, a VC firm focused on early-stage investments in deep science and enterprise technologies, has launched its Speciale Invest Growth Fund I, which eyes investing in follow-on rounds of its existing portfolio.

Speciale Invest Growth Fund I has an initial investment of Rs 100 crore and has received Sebi approval to provide Series-A and above funding to high-potential tech startups, supporting India's enterprise and deep-tech startup ecosystem. In 3-4 months, Speciale expects to close the corpus for this fund at Rs 200 crore.

"The new fund is meant to reinvest in portfolio. To that extent, these are those companies with whom we already have working experience, we understand their management and have tracked their progress. Mostly, the capital will be going into such companies that are doing well," Speciale Invest Managing Partner Vishesh Rajaram told *TNIE*, adding that the fund would begin by investing in one company in the coming months, the details of which will be revealed then.

"Our new Growth Fund I is an extension of our vision and commitment to expand our investment strategy to support high-performing technology startups from our portfolio at the Series A and beyond stages... We look forward to partnering with promising startups and providing them resources and guidance," said Speciale Invest General Partner Arjun Rao.

Speciale primarily focuses on startups that are into emerging technologies such as spacetechnology, aerospace, green hydrogen, robotics, batteries, quantum tech, AI-led SAAS, dev tools, data infrastructure, and Large Language Model applications/infrastructure, and semiconductors. "We are bullish on companies which are engineering-heavy, for which one needs a founder with some domain and deep insights to build that sort of company. Differentiation is key," Rajaram said.

Speciale Invest was founded in 2017. In 2018, it raised its first fund of Rs 60 crore, which backed 18 companies. In 2022, the company announced the final close of its second fund at Rs 300 crore, with plans to invest in over 20 early-stage companies through pre-seed and seed rounds.

Govt to ban online games involving betting, promotion of such activities

RAKESH KUMAR @New Delhi

THE government will ban any online games or websites promoting betting as well as any advertising promoting such games. The ban is part of the amendments in the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, notified by the government on Monday.

The amendments provide for multiple self-regulatory organisations (SRO), which will decide on permissibility of online games based on the framework. The new rules mandate that there will be no surrogate advertising by firms that promote betting online. IT minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar stressed on the need for KYC (Know Your Customer) to ensure that no money laundering is involved through online gaming. "The online gaming space is a multi-billion-dollar opportunity for Indian startups and young Indians all over the country. Therefore, our whole objective is to regulate one small sliver of it," the minister said.



The newly amended IT intermediaries' rules mandate institution of an entity that will flag 'false' or 'untrue' or 'misleading' information about the central government posted online. The provision of such an entity is part of the amendments to the IT Rules, 2021, that was notified on Thursday. While speaking about the amendment, IT minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar said the purpose of the rule is to tighten a noose of intermediaries like Facebook, Twitter or any other online portals as they enjoy safe haven protection under the IT Act

Govt notifies entity to flag 'fake news'

The newly amended IT intermediaries' rules mandate institution of an entity that will flag 'false' or 'untrue' or 'misleading' information about the central government posted online. IT minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar said the purpose of the rule is to tighten noose of intermediaries like Facebook, Twitter or any other online portals as they enjoy safe haven protection under the IT Act 2000

2000. As per the new law, if a government agency or government information is misrepresented on any online platform, the fact checking unit will flag it. "After flagging, it is for intermediaries to decide whether they want to take it down or not, just like in the original rules in October 2022. There is no firm obligation on the intermediaries to take down the content but if it refuses to do so they will lose their safe harbor. And they will have to deal with the court of law," said the minister.

TAX DEPT

'Choice of tax regime should be intimidated'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @New Delhi

EMPLOYEES will have to inform their employers if they want to opt for the old or the new income tax regime. If not done so, the new regime will apply to them by default, and TDS on their salaries would be cut accordingly.

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has clarified through a circular issued on 5 April 2023 that an employer needs to seek information from its employees which income tax regime they would opt for.

Employees are required to intimate their options to his employer at the beginning of each year and upon such intimation, the employer has to compute the employee's income and deduct tax at source. The CBDT also clarified that such intimation from employees to their employer is for the purpose of TDS obligation. An employee can choose old or new regime at the time of filing returns.

Startup funding falls 75% in Q1, '23; no new unicorn

UMA KANNAN @Bengaluru

HOME-GROWN start-ups witnessed a 75% year-on-year (YoY) decline in funding in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the same quarter last year. They raised \$2.8 billion in Q1, 2023, which is a 21% fall from Q4, 2022.

With companies resorting to layoffs to preserve cash, according to the Tracxn report, late-stage funding rounds in the first quarter witnessed a decline of 79% (\$1.8 billion) compared to the year-ago period. Early-stage rounds also dropped 68% at \$844 million compared to Q1 2022.

Also, there was no single unicorn created in the first quarter compared with 14 unicorns in Q1 2022. The top funding rounds in Q1 includes Lenskart's \$500 million fundraising in Series J round led by a

STARTUP FUNDING TRENDS

Start-ups raised \$1.2 billion in funding in March compared to \$598 million in Feb

87 funding rounds took place in March as against 67 in Feb

Top funding rounds in March were

\$500 mn Lenskart - Series J

\$200 mn PhonePe - Series D

\$110 mn Mintifi - Series D

Late-stage rounds in Q1, 2023 saw funding of \$1.8 bn, a decline of 79% as against Q1, 2022



wholly-owned subsidiary of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) at a valuation of \$4.5 billion.

A total of 87 funding rounds took place in March, compared,

to 67 in February.

The Q1 of 2023 witnessed nine 100M+ funding rounds. Companies such as PhonePe, Lenskart, Mintifi, Insurance Dekho, FreshtoHome foods, TI

Clean Mobility and KreditBee have managed to raise funds above \$100 million in the quarter. PhonePe has raised a total of \$650 million in multiple Series D rounds in Q1 of 2023, valuing the company at \$12 billion.

Many start-ups have been struggling to raise funds and they have also started firing employees. After laying off employees, Unacademy co-founder and CEO Gaurav Munjal said, "Today, the global economy is enduring a recession, funding is scarce and running a profitable business is key. We have to adapt to these changes, build and operate in a much leaner manner so we can truly create value for our users and shareholders." However, in terms of acquisitions, the report said Q1, 2023, witnessed 46 acquisitions compared with 43 acquisitions in Q4, 2022.



WELLINGTON: Kane Williamson is likely to miss the ODI World Cup in India later this year as the New Zealand skipper is set to undergo a surgery for the treatment of his right knee which he injured while playing for Gujarat Giants in the ongoing IPL. Williamson returned to New Zealand and the scans have confirmed that he has ruptured the ACL of his right knee.

Bravo expects more yorkers from CSK fast bowlers

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

ALTHOUGH most surfaces across venues during the Indian Premier League are batter friendly with some help for the spinners, fast bowlers too have a significant role to play in the shortest format of the game. Particularly, death bowling is an important phase where pacers are employed. Bowling at the death is an art in by itself and former Chennai Super Kings fast bowler Dwayne Bravo is among the few who had mastered the same during his playing days.

During his stint with CSK, Bravo had enthralled the crowds with his death bowling, often sending down a penetrative yorker in style and then casually follow it up with a slower one to fox the batter so effortlessly. Now in the new role as the bowling coach of the franchise, the West Indian believes that his team's speedsters need to improve their bowling at the death. "There is a secret formula for bowling at the death," says Bravo before candidly adding that he isn't going to share it for other teams will follow. "There is a particular template to follow, we all in the bowling group (Eric Simons) and the coach (Stephen Fleming) are on the same page and understand the philosophy of bowling. So its a work in progress. It is impossible to try and coach the players the way how in my time when I used to play and bowl in the back (death). They (bowlers) have to develop their own style and we have to encourage them and stick to the basics," he added.



As he has done through his playing days, Bravo reiterates the significance of a yorker in the final overs of an innings. "Best is always the yorker, but it's one of the most difficult (deliveries) to bowl. You have to really put in the hours to practice and get other options over and around the wicket, bowling wide, bowling straight so on. It is the most important for bowling and last game, there was a big improvement from first game. We bowled like three yorkers and its very important to improve that. We did that on Monday night and again its early days in tournament and we need to improve from here on. At this moment, if you don't have pace and bowl a yorker, you will not survive."

Full story: newindianexpress.com



Rajasthan Royals' Dhruv Jurel plays a shot against Punjab Kings on Thursday | SPORTSPICS

MIN FUSS, MAX IMPACT

From being a reluctant wicketkeeper-batter to potential IPL star: Dhruv's journey

FIROZ MIRZA @ Chennai

CHASING 198 against Punjab Kings, hosts Rajasthan Royals were tottering at 124/6 after 15 overs when their impact player Dhruv Jurel walked in to join Shimron Hetmyer. Home fans at the Barsapara Cricket Stadium in Guwahati were expecting the left-hand batter from Guyana to lead the fightback against Punjab with Dhruv's support.

Hetmyer didn't disappoint but what surprised the fans most was the way the 22-year-old Dhruv swept Australian pacer Nathan Ellis's fifth ball of the 17th over backward square leg for a six. The spectators might have been surprised but not Parvendra Yadav, coach of the Spring Dale Cricket Academy in Agra, Uttar Pradesh. He always knew his ward had the ability to hit any bowler out of the park if the situation demanded. It was just the beginning as Dhruv then plundered India pacer Arshdeep Singh in the penultimate over, hitting him for a four; a six and a four off consecutive deliveries to take the team within touching



distance. "The inside out six that he hit off Arshdeep is his favourite shot. He missed the next one trying to guide the ball to the third man. Had he played straight, he could have scored another boundary," added the coach, who started training Dhruv when he was 9.

Nem Singh Jurel, Dhruv's father, is a Kargil war veteran and wanted his son to join the Indian Army. Dhruv, however, fell in love with cricket quite early forcing his father to request coach Parvendra to hone his cricketing skills as both the families live in Defence Colony. "I was lying under the cooler and repairing it when I realised somebody touched my feet. I came out and saw Jurel standing there with his father. 'Sir, please make him a cricketer, now he is all yours', his father had told me. But I told him that I will only give admission to the boy after the trials," added the coach.

He impressed the coach and started training under him. Given his quick reflexes while fielding, the coach advised his ward to start keeping the wickets. The



I promised his dad that wicketkeeping will be an added advantage and it would help him break into the state & national teams by 2020.

-Parvendra Yadav, Dhruv's coach

youngster, however, was not interested and resisted the move to the best of his ability. He even stopped coming to the academy. "His father then requested me not to force him to take the dual responsibility as he already was an opener. I promised him that wicketkeeping will be an added advantage and it would help his son to make his way to the state and national teams by 2020."

Despite the assurance, Jurel remained uninterested but he realised it when he could not make it to the under-14 state

team as a batter despite being in the core group of 60 players. "He then started taking wicketkeeping seriously and got a chance in the playing XI as the regular stumper got injured ahead of the final against Madhya Pradesh if I remember correctly. He slammed a ton and then never hesitated from taking up the dual responsibility."

As Parvendra promised, the all-round ability helped Dhruv to make it to the India U-19 squad for the Asia Cup where he led the team to the title in 2019. He was also a part of the India U-19 team that lost the World Cup final to Bangladesh in South Africa. "Despite scoring 32 off 15 which included three fours and two sixes, he was disappointed as his team lost the contest. I told him not to lose heart as winning and losing are part of the game. He was with Rajasthan franchise last year but didn't get a game. But this time I am quite sure he will play a lot. I can bet he will be a part of the senior team by 2024/25," signed off the coach.

Hopefully, the coach's prophecy comes true this time also as it did four years ago.

Fun Knight: Thakur brings joy to Kolkata

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Chennai

SHARDUL Thakur is the kind of batter who delivers and then stands. His predominant craft is when he runs in with the ball in his hand. He's more entertaining, though, when he wields his willow. It may not be aesthetically pleasing but damn aesthetics. Not when you score a wildly enjoyable 20-ball 50. When the all-rounder, traded to Kolkata Knight Riders for ₹10.55 cr before the last auction, came in, the hosts were ready to throw in the towel against Royal Challengers Bangalore. They were 5/89, the second time they had lost two in as many deliveries.

The Afghan opener, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, was dismissed for a 44-ball 57 before Andre Russell was scalped for a one baller. Thakur's first mission was to face Karn Sharma's hat-trick ball. He misjudges the spin but still gets an inside edge to beat fine leg. If his first boundary was something you would see in gully cricket, most of his other shots were stuff of video games. There was inside out over extra cover for a four. One lofted six over long on. A conventional sweep for four that ought to have a blue tick next to it in a few days without needing to pay \$7 per month. One pulled six off a Michael Bracewell drag down that disappeared into a capacity crowd watching their team for the first time since the pandemic. It was a similar kind of knock he had played against England at The Oval in 2021. A man with a first class average of 16 had removed the conditions from the equation as he went about tearing the history books that day.

On Thursday, the 31-year-old, who has an average of 10.72 at a strike rate of 123.4 in T20s, made a mockery of that record. Coming into this match, 141st of his career, he had 19 fours and 14 6s since making his debut in 2015. In a little over 45 minutes, he hit nine fours and three sixes. What worked in his favour — what always seems to work in his favour — is his self belief. He knows what he can do and throws himself into it wholeheartedly. If it works, super. If it doesn't, there's always a next time. There are no



Shardul Thakur smashed a 29-ball 68 helping KKR beat RCB by 81 runs | PTI

regrets. YOLO. In that sense, he's the ultimate vibes cricketer. He's a walking entertainment channel when he's batting. One only needed to watch his first ball six against Punjab Kings the other night. Facing Sam Curran, Thakur produced a Shubman Gill-ish short-arm jab which sailed into the crowd over wide mid-wicket. Hello swag. Meet impudence.

A bit like his innings at the Eden Gardens. He looked cool while essaying those shots. In the stands, fans were dancing. Next to them, Shah Rukh Khan, one of the many stakeholders, was clapping. On social media, KKR fans were doing the same. That's the kind of effect Thakur's innings had on the fanbase. They haven't had a lot of joy in recent times but his innings was fun; chicken soup for the soul. At the other end, Rinku Singh played anchor before showing his range in the death as he lifted the side to beyond 200. Whatever happens to Kolkata from hereon in, they will always have the half-an-hour of madness Thakur & Co. provided. An everlasting memory.

Brief scores: KKR 204/7 in 20 ovs (Gurbaz 57, Thakur 68) bt RCB 123 in 17.4 ovs (Varun 4/15, Suyash 3/30).

Lucknow look for home advantage vs Hyderabad

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS FACE SUNRISERS HYDERABAD, WHO WILL BE SEEKING THEIR FIRST WIN. A LOOK...

ALL EYES ON PROTEA STARS

Having missed first few days, the South African players have joined the respective teams. Quinton de Kock for LSG and Aiden Markram, Heinrich Klaassen and Marco Jansen for SRH. The latter will be looking for the overseas stars to step up and play a key role for them.

MAYERS VS WASHINGTON

Kyle Mayers has already set the stage on fire with consecutive fifties for Lucknow in his first two games. So much so that, they might still play even if De Kock comes in at the top. However, against SRH he will have a challenger in Washington Sundar. After all, Mayers averages 22.2 and strikes at 96.8 against offies in the shortest format.

MAYANK VS MARK

It is no secret that Mayank Agarwal is one of the prolific hitters of spin, especially in the middle-overs. However, to do that, he has to survive the first six overs — a phase where he strikes at 116.29 and averages 21.9 against pace. On Friday, he will be up against one of the quickest in Mark Wood, who has taken 8 wickets in two games.



LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS VS SUNRISERS HYDERABAD, 7.30 PM

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS AND JIO CINEMA

BOARD EXAM

The first match of the FIDE World Championship is set to be held on Friday. A look at the two contestants, the uniqueness of the match-up, the format, prize money on offer and other details...

IAN NEPOMNIACHTCHY VS DING LIREN

SO, WHO IS MAGNUS CARLSEN FACING?

Well, this is awkward. Carlsen, the reigning champion, abdicated his throne. In a podcast in 2022, he had announced his seismic decision. "I'm not motivated to play the match," he had said. "I simply feel that I don't have a lot to gain." So the Championship match will be between Ian Nepomniachtchi and China's Ding Liren. It's the first time that a Classical title match-up will be without Viswanathan Anand or Carlsen since the 2006 encounter between Vladimir Kramnik and Veselin Topalov.

HOW DID FIDE ARRIVE AT NEPOMNIACHTCHI AND LIREN AS THE COMPETITORS?

Nepomniachtchi was a straightforward decision. He won last year's Candidates so qualified on merit. The case for Ding Liren is more fascinating. He hadn't originally qualified for last year's Candidates but was invited by FIDE to take part after Sergey Karjakin, one of the original qualifiers, had violated FIDE's code of Ethics after the player had expressed his support of Russia's invasion of

Ukraine. So, Liren, the highest-ranked player not already qualified for the Candidates, got in. At the actual tournament, Liren finished in second place.

HANG ON, ISN'T NEPOMNIACHTCHI ALSO FROM RUSSIA?

Yes, he is. But he hasn't come out in support of Russia or anything remotely. In fact, less than 10 days into the invasion, Nepomniachtchi was one of the signees of a petition that appealed to the Russian government to stop the invasion. The petition had said: "...unbearably painful for us to see the catastrophe that is happening." For that matter, FIDE's head is also Russian (Arkady Dvorkovich).

WHAT'S THE FORMAT LIKE?

The final will be played over 14 Classical matches from April 7 to May 1. The first person to reach 7.5 points (one point

for win and 0.5 for a draw) will be adjudged the winner. The time control for the 14 Classical games is 120 minutes per competitor for the first 40 moves. Then there's a further 60 minutes per player to make the next 20. There is a 15 minute top-up after that till the end of the game with an increment of 15 seconds per move. But there's a high chance that the final could witness tie-breaks as Classical games tend to be cagey dogfights.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE SCORES ARE LEVEL AFTER 14 MATCHES?

The format goes to Rapid (quicker time control), with a best of four to decide the champion (25+10 time control). If the two contestants still cannot be separated, Blitz games (5+3 time control) will be in effect till there is a winner.

WHAT ABOUT THE PRIZE MONEY?

The total purse available is 2 million euros, with the winner pocketing 60%. If the tie goes into a tie-breaker, the split is 55-45.

Benzema scores treble as Real smash Barcelona in Copa del Rey

AGENCIES @ Barcelona

KARIM Benzema struck a hat-trick as Real Madrid hammered Barcelona 4-0 at Camp Nou to reach the Copa del Rey final on Wednesday, progressing 4-1 on aggregate.

Vinicius Junior opened the scoring just before the break as Carlo Ancelotti's side mounted a spectacular comeback from their one-goal semi-final first leg deficit, with Benzema adding a second-half treble.

After netting three at the weekend against Real Valladolid in La Liga, Benzema repeated the trick to humiliate Barcelona on a painful night for coach Xavi Hernandez in front of almost 95,000 distraught fans.

Los Blancos trail their arch-rivals by 12 points in La Liga



Real Madrid's Karim Benzema (C) celebrates after scoring against Barcelona | AP

and were beaten by Barca in the Spanish Super Cup final in January, but triumphed here to reach the Copa final for the first time since 2014. "It was a complete game — when you play a complete game, you win 4-0 like

that," said Ancelotti. Madrid turfed out the record 31-time cup winners with a muscular performance on a spiky night in Barcelona, where they also ended a demoralising run of three straight Clasico defeats.

EXPRESS READ

Rajawat enters quarters

ORLEANS: Priyanshu Rajawat notched up a stunning straight-game win over Kenta Nishimoto of Japan to enter the men's singles quarterfinals of the Orleans Masters on Thursday. World No 58 Rajawat got the better of World No 12 Nishimoto 21-8, 21-16.

Kalikesk takes charge as NRAI president

NEW DELHI: Senior vice-president Kalikesk Narayan Singh Deo on Thursday took charge as National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) president after 'incumbent' Raninder Singh went on a "prolonged leave". The Sports Ministry had issued a directive that heads of national sports federations (NSFs) cannot hold office for more than 12 years as per the National Sports Code, following which Raninder who was re-elected in September 2021, went on leave. The ministry had pointed out last month that Raninder had completed 12 years as president and as per the code, he cannot continue as NRAI chief.

Nat'l wrestling tourney resumes

ENS @ Chennai

THE 2023 Open National Senior Ranking Wrestling Tournament, which was stopped midway in January due to a protest, will now resume at Nandini Nagar, Gonda (UP) on April 16.

The protest not only led to the postponement of the event but also forced Wrestling Federation of India chief, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh to step aside till the completion of the probe being initiated to investigate charges against him.

"The tournament will be held from April 16 to 18. Only those women and Greco-Roman wrestlers, who had already registered for the event in January can compete," the WFI said in a statement. The freestyle contests got over when the tournament was postponed.

Ramkumar in last eight

CHENNAI: Ramanathan Ramkumar moved into the last eight of the singles section in the BR Adithyan Memorial ITF men's Futures tennis tournament here on Thursday along with four of his Indian compatriots. Ramkumar cruised past Grigory Lomakin 6-0, 6-2 in the pre-quarterfinals.

Trial shows promise against cancer in kids

9 of 27 children had no sign of the disease 6 weeks after treatment

HEALTH

A novel treatment using super-charged immune cells appears to work against tumours in children with a rare kind of cancer, researchers reported on Wednesday.

Nine of 27 children in the Italian study had no sign of cancer six weeks after the treatment, although two later relapsed and died.

The treatment—called CAR-T cell therapy—is already used to help the immune system fight leukemia and other cancers in the blood.

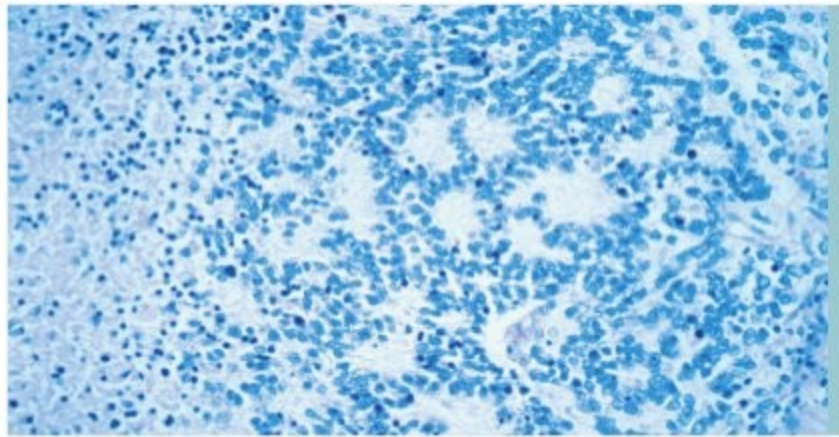
This is the first time researchers have achieved such encouraging results in solid tumours, experts in the field said, and raises hopes that it can be used against other kinds of cancers.

It's too soon to call it a cure for neuroblastoma, a nerve tissue cancer that often starts in infancy in the adrenal glands near the kidneys in the abdomen.

Standard treatment can be intense, involving chemotherapy, surgery and radiation, depending on the cancer's stage and other factors.

The children in the study had cancers that had come back or were particularly hard to treat. Eleven children were alive when the three-year study ended, including some who only partially responded to treatment and got repeat doses of the modified cells.

"Those kids were all destined to die without that therapy," said University of Pennsylvania's Dr. Carl June, a pioneer of CAR-T therapy who was not involved in the new research.



Typical neuroblastoma with rosette formation | AP

HOW THE NEW PROCEDURE WORKS

CAR-T cell therapy harnesses the immune system to create "living drugs" able to seek and destroy tumours. T cells from the patient's blood are collected and strengthened in the lab, then returned to the patient through an IV where they continue to multiply.

"No one's ever had patients responding like this before, so we just don't know what it's going to look like a decade from now," June said.

"For sure, there are going to be more trials now based on these exciting results."

Six CAR-T cell therapies have been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for blood cancers. Some early patients have been cured.

But success in solid tumours has been elusive. The latest study was done by researchers at the Vatican's Bambino Gesù pediatric hospital in Rome.

"They seem to have found a unique combination" to get the modified cells to multiply initially, then last a long time to continue their cancer-killing work, said Dr. Robbie Majzner of Stanford University School

of Medicine, who was not involved in the new study.

Study co-author Dr. Franco Locatelli said they also added a safety switch to eliminate the cells if a patient had a severe reaction.

When one patient had problems, they flipped the safety switch, showing that it worked, although later they determined the patient's problem was caused by a brain bleed unrelated to the CAR-T cells.

Many of the children had a side effect that is common with CAR-T therapy—an immune overreaction called "cytokine release syndrome."

It can be serious, but was mild in most, the researchers reported. They concluded that CAR-T therapy was "feasible and safe in treating high-risk neuroblastoma."



The Palace of Versailles signed a deal with Forbidden City in Beijing for a 2024 exhibition about historic ties between France and China. Announcement came during President Macron's visit to Beijing



Protected Indigenous reservations in the Amazon absorb thousands of tonnes of airborne pollution each year, saving around \$2 billion annually in healthcare costs for treating respiratory and cardiovascular diseases

EXFILE • HISTORY

The sarcophagus of ancient Egyptian Pharaoh Ramses II was unveiled to reporters in Paris on Thursday following its rare journey outside of Egypt

SARCOPHAGUS OF PHAROAH RAMSES II UNVEILED



COOPERATION BETWEEN FRANCE AND EGYPT

Benedicte Lhoyer, scientific advisor to the exhibition, said the "exceptional" loan was thanks to "an unprecedented cooperation between France and Egypt"

1.4 million people

Egyptian relics have proved a hit in the past—some 1.4 million people came to see an exhibition about Tutankhamun in Paris four years ago

RAMSES II EXHIBITION TOUR

The Ramses II exhibition is on a tour that includes the United States and Australia this year, but only France is receiving the sarcophagus, in recognition of the assistance from French scientists, who helped save the mummy from decay following a previous visit to Paris in 1976



The sarcophagus of pharaoh Ramses II

AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING

The ornate coffin will be on show to the public in the French capital from April 7 to September 6

1070 BC

Inscriptions on the sarcophagus' sides detail how his body was moved three times from 1070 BC, after his tomb in Luxor's Valley of the Kings was raided by grave-robbers

RAMSES THE GREAT

Ramses II, also known as Ramses the Great, ruled for more than 60 years during the 13th century BC and oversaw major military conquests and monumental construction projects, while also finding time to father more than 100 children

SARCOPHAGUS-NOT THE ORIGINAL COFFIN

The yellow-painted cedar-wood sarcophagus, which depicts the recumbent king in bright colours with his arms crossed on his chest holding a sceptre and whip, was not actually Ramses II's original coffin

RAMSES II DEFEATED TIME LIKE TUTANKHAMUN, HE HAS BECOME IMMORTAL, -Benedicte Lhoyer

DISCOVERING FINAL RESTING PLACE

Its final resting place was discovered almost three millennia later in 1881, just as it too was being pillaged

EXHIBITION IN PARIS

The immersive exhibition in Paris also features an abundance of statues, masks and jewellery from the period—more than 180 objects in total—as well as a 3D recreation of one of the king's battles against the Hittite empire

MUMMY STAYS BEHIND IN EGYPT

The mummy itself has stayed behind this time, since Egyptian law now forbids transporting royal mummies abroad

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is hereby given to the public whatsoever that my client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from **SRI. B. NAGARAJA**, S/o R. Basavegowda, Residing at No.57/A, 12th Cross, E Road, Ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwarinagar, BANGALORE-560088.

Any person or persons having objections, claims or interest in the Schedule Property/ transactions may lodge the same to the undersigned with valid documents/proof within Seven (07) days from the date of this publication, failing which it shall be presumed that the Schedule Property is free from any acts of encumbrances or claims.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property i.e., Site and Building Property bearing Site No.470, Rajarajeshwar CMC Khatha No.447/470, BBMP Khatha No.447/470/147, situated at Jewaharal Nehru Road, 3rd Stage, BEML Layout, Bangalore formed in the land bearing in Sy.Nos.77 to 90, 105 to 119/1, 5, 4 to 122, 147 to 165 and 273 of Halagevadehalli, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, now within the BBMP limits of BBMP Ward No.150 and Ward Name : Rajarajeshwarinagar, measuring East to West: 67'-0" + 60'-6 1/2 feet and North to South: 31'-6" + 60'-6 1/2 feet, in all measuring 2932.5 Sq feet and bounded on East by: Site No.469, West by: Road, North by: Road and South by: Site No.470/A.

B. JANARDHANA, ADVOCATE, No.892/C, 1st Floor, 6th Main, WCR 2nd Stage, Mahalakshmiuram, BANGALORE - 560 085. MBL No.984548285

Form No. URC-2

Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part I of Chapter XII (Pursuant to section 37(4b) of the companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014]

1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application has been made to the Registrar at 'E' Wing, 2nd Floor, Kendriya Sadana, Koramangala, Bangalore, Karnataka-560034 that Arush Packaging a partnership firm may be registered under Part I of Chapter XII of the Companies Act 2013, as a company limited by shares.

2. The Principal objects of the company are as follows: To carry on business in India and elsewhere as manufacturers or dealers in and importers and exporters of all kinds of packaging containers including cartons, boxes and cases wholly or partly made of papers, boards, wood, sacks, thermocole, thermofom, poly bag, air bubble sheet, mono cartons, glass, plastic, rubber, metals, zelanite, tin or otherwise fibrate boxes, corrugated containers, corrugated rolling boxes, bopp tape, display boxes and other packing and gift boxes, requisite of every kind and description.

3. A copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at Sy. No. 55/1, Kyalissanahalli Village, Varadaballi, Bommasandra Jigani Link Road, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore-560105, Karnataka, India.

4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at 'E' Wing, 2nd Floor, Kendriya Sadana, Koramangala, Bangalore, Karnataka-560034, within twenty one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office.

Name(s) of Applicant: 1. Tapan Kumar Howdy, 2. Pratap Kumar Rana

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LIMITED

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE (PAPER NOTIFICATION)
TSSPDCL intends to float tenders for procurement of (a) Centralized Enterprise Anti-Virus Solution (End Point Protection) in Data Critical/ Desktop System & Servers of Corporate Office and SCADA Office and (b) Android Integrated Spot Billing Machines (c) 33KV Current Transformers of 400/1A, 0.2S class, 5VA(d) 11KV 220V DC Feeder VCB with CTs of 400-200-100/1-1A (w/o CRPs) (e) 8.0 Mtrs/140 Kgs PSCC Poles to Mahabubnagar & Nagarkurnool/Circles (f) 9.1 Mtrs/280 kgs PSCC Poles to Ranga Reddy Circle (g) Auction for Survey reported 3.15 MVA PTR scrap on e-tender platform. For further details of each item above, please visit www.tssouthernpower.com, www.tender.telangana.gov.in and www.auction.telangana.gov.in. Phone: 040 - 23431360, 1033, 1035.

DIPR.D.No.56-PP/C/Advt/1/2023-24, Dt: 06/04/2023 Sd/- CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&MM)

THE SECRET OF GETTING AHEAD IS GETTING STARTED > MARK TWAIN

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client M. Munipappa, S/o G. Munipappa, R/at No. 239/3, Free sites B.G Road, Bilekahalli, Bangalore-76 has lost his property documents (i.e.: 1) Absolute Sale Deed, bearing no. 10002/2003-04, dated: 29.08.2003, stored in C.D. No. 115, Book No. 1, registered before office of Sub-Registrar, Bommanahalli (Jayanagar), Bangalore South Taluk, executed by Smt. Annayamma in favour of my client in respect of the property bearing site no. 6, Khata No. 356, situated at Bilekahalli Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring one portion of the same site East to West 15 Sq Ft and North to South 40 Sq Ft and another portion of same site measuring East to West 15 Sq Ft and North to South 16 Sq Ft 2) Hakku Patra, issued by Block Development Office, Bangalore North Taluk, in favour of Konda Karappa in favour of Chinnaiah, in respect of above stated property and 3) notarized G.P.A., dated: 23.09.1991, executed by Smt. Annayamma, W/o late Chinnaiah, and Sri. Narayana, S/o late Chinnaiah, and Sri. C. Govindaswamy, S/o late Chinnaiah in respect of the above stated property. The said three documents were misplaced/lost, if anybody get any information about the said documents in the possession of the same having any claim/interest in the said property may write/contact to the undersigned within 15 days with documentary proof, failing which my client will treat the certified copy of the said document as original and objections received thereafter is not binding upon my client. In this regard my client has already been lodged the complaint through online before the City Police on 04.04.2023, vide Lost Report No. 0522983/2023, 0522982/2023, 0522989/2023

Sathish M.C., Advocate, No. 619, 2/F Main Road, 11th Block, Nagarabhatta, 2nd Stage, Bangalore-72, Date: 06.04.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owners (i) Sri.K.V.Srinivasa, (ii) Sri.K.V.Narayanasa, (iii) Sri.K.V.Maruthi, (iv) Sri.K.V.Ravi Kumar and (v) Sri.K.V.Srihari, all are sons of late K.G.V.Venkusa. If any person/s have any manner of right, title, interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule property by the aforesaid owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objections in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within 14 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.96 (old No.95 & 96), PID No.46-4-96, measuring East to West 60ft and North to South 108ft, situated at 2nd Main Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Property belongs to K.G.Rajaram
West by : Property belongs to K.G.Lakshman
North by : 2nd Main Road
South by : Conservancy

Sd/- Gautam Chand S.F

Advocate

Goutam Associates

No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560 004

WESTERN RAILWAY

LICENSE FOR MULTI PURPOSE STALL AT A1 & C CATEGORY

Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), Mumbai Division, Western Railway, Mumbai Central invites e-Tender on single packet open tender system from Retailers / Individuals / Self Help Groups (SHGs) / registered Sole Proprietorship firm or partnership firms / companies / (from Retailers / Individuals for reserved category) for award of license for Multi Purpose Stall at following A1 & C category of stations for a period of five years.

Sr. No.	Tender Notice No.	Category & Sub quota	Station	Category of station	Location & size (in feet)	Reserve Price per annum (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)
1	C45/1/MPS/ BCT/2023/1	General Women	Mumbai Central	A1	Adjoining to Passenger Reservation System Hall wall, opposite to parking at the Kotak Mahindra ATM location. (20x10 = 200 sq.ft.)	7,68,865	81,700
2	C45/1/MPS/ PBHD/2023/1	Scheduled Tribe	Prabhadevi	C	North west of circulating area in front of staircase of middle bridge (20x10 = 200 sq.ft.)	5,70,796	60,700

Amendment/Corrigendum, if any Kindly visit website www.ireps.gov.in / till tender closing time & date for any amendments/Corrigendum. Time and Date for Closure for Submission of e-Tender Document: Up to 15:00 Hrs. on 27.04.2023 through online website www.ireps.gov.in only. Date and time of opening of e-Tender : At 15:30 hrs on 27.04.2023 through online website www.ireps.gov.in only. Address for Correspondence: Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Commercial Department, Ground Floor, Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008. Tele : 022-676-44246/44238 Fax : 022-676-44299 Email : cmictgbct@gmail.com.



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75
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

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KOCHI METRO RAIL LIMITED

(A joint venture company of Govt. of India & Govt. of Kerala) 48, Theroor, 13A Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala (PIN-560011) Ph: 0484-284700

E-TENDER

1) SEMI-NAMING RIGHTS IN VARIOUS METRO STATIONS
Last date of bid submission : 10th April 2023
2) LICENSE FOR ADVERTISEMENT RIGHTS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS (INSIDE AND OUTSIDE) IN METRO STATIONS PREMISES
Tender id : 2023_KMRIL_565060_1
Last date of bid submission : 26-Apr-2023 03:00 PM

Tender documents can be downloaded from www.kochimetrorail.com or www.kmril.co.in Further correspondence & addendum will be published only on website

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that I, **Shaji N B S/o Late Kuruvalla Baby** (Mobile No.9886654042), No.77, 2nd Cross, Amaravathi Layout, Nagasandra, Bangalore-560 073 has lost the original Sale Deed No.45289 / 2006-07 registered on 16-10-2006 in respect of Site No.130, Assessment No.16, Khatha No.52, measuring East to West 30 Feet, North to South 40 Feet situated at Heggadadevanapura Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk on 03-04-2023 near 8th Mile, Tumkur Road, Bangalore City and in this regard, I have lodged a police complaint against said loss on 04-04-2023 vide Lost Report No.0523318/2023. In the event any person finds or in possession of the above said original document, kindly hand over the same to the above mentioned address within 7 days from the publication of this notice. The general public are cautioned not to act on the basis of the said original document.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General public that my Client Vedyappan.N is purchasing the said Property bearing No.16, carved out of the land bearing Sy.No.27, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 50 feet, totally measuring 2000 Sq feet. Situated at Hennur Taluk, Kasaba Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, by availing the loan from ICICI Home Finance company Limited. If Late D.Raghuthamahacharya and Late. D. Bheemacharya their legal heirs or any person having right, title, interest or Objection in the schedule property must notify their undersigned documentary proof, thereon Within 07 days of this publication failing which it shall be deemed that the schedule property is not encumbrance and my client shall proceed within transaction.

Deepa A.M. Advocate, 10AR742012, No.6, 80 feet Road, Bangalore, Dated:06.04.2023 Chandra Layout, Bangalore 560040

NEVER COMPLAIN AND NEVER EXPLAIN
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

STATE BANK OF INDIA

RETAIL ASSETS CENTRAL PROCESSING CENTRE (RACPC), ST MARKS ROAD
Authorised Officer's Details: **Name: Sri. Srinivasa.K**
Chief Manager
E-mail ID: sbi.63988@sbi.co.in
Mobile No: 9611093484
Address of the Branch: St.Marks Road, C/o.SBI, Bengaluru Branch No.65, LHO Compound, Bengaluru-560001
Mobile No. 9611093484
Email: sbi.63988@sbi.co.in

APPENDIX -IV A
[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (EXCLUDING MOVABLE ASSETS, IF ANY, LYING IN THE PREMISES)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets (excluding movable assets, if any, lying in the premises) under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) & 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and the Borrowers/Mortgagors in particular that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured creditor, State Bank of India, the physical possession of which have been taken by the Authorised Officer, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis on **09.05.2023** for recovery of **Rs.22,88,429/-** (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty Nine only) as on 02.04.2023 and further interest at contractual rate from 03.04.2023 with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. due to State Bank of India, Secured creditor from **Smt. Nandhini Jha & Sri. Saurabh Jha**. The reserve price, earnest money deposit bid increment amount and last date for receipt of EMD will be as under:-

Property No.	Reserve Price (Below which the property will not be sold)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Bid increment Amount	Time & Date of e-Auction
1	Rs.27,92,000/-	Rs.2,79,200/-	Rs. 27,920/-	From 11:00 a.m. to 12.00p.m. on 09.05.2023

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Tender No: SBI-40190/EA/KNR/STMARKS/2023/01
Absolute Sale Deed No.SR-J-1-05183-2021-22, CD No.SRJD996 dated 13-12-2021, SRO: Sarjapura, Basavanagudi.

Composite Schedule Property

All that piece and parcel of the undeveloped Converted property bearing Sy.no.44/4 measuring to an extent of 1 Acre 09.8 Gunta out of 1 Acre 29.08 Gunta of situated at Gonigattapura Village, SarjapuraHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District (converted from agricultural to Non-agricultural residential purpose vide No.ALN(A)(SH)SR71/2010-11, dated 20.09.2010) and bounded on the: East by: Property in Sy No. 44/6, West by: Property in Sy No.44/4, North by: Remaining property in Sy No.44/4 and South by: Road and Property in Sy No.55.

SCHEDULE - B: (Description of the Undivided Share): 397 Square Feet of Undivided right, title and interest in the Composite Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE - C: (Description of the Apartment): North facing residential apartment No.B406 having 582 Square feet of carpet area plus additional balcony area of 57Sq.ft and super built-up area of 912 square feet in the Third floor, in "B" block, with one car parking space in the stilt floor in the building constructed over the Composite Schedule Property and named as "SIGNATURE CREST" along with right to use of the common areas, facilities, passages, Lobby, corridor situated at Gonigattapura Village, SarjapuraHobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and plan sanction for the construction of apartment building is sanctioned from the Anekal Planning Authority vide No.APA/CC/05/2020-21 dated 22.05.2020 within the limits of Neriga Grama Panchayath having E-Katha No.150200101600720730, standing in the joint names of Smt. Nandhini Jha & Sri. Saurabh Jha.

The sale shall be subject to provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. For further details regarding inspection of the property the intending bidders may contact the Authorised officer, State Bank of India, RACPC, St. Mark's Road through office hours. Contact No.9611093484 or Banks approved Resolution Agent: M/s.KN Resolutions Pvt Ltd., Mr.Pradeep Kumar, Cell No.9535052772.

To the best of knowledge of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the above said property. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided by the Authorised Officer, State Bank of India, Retail Assets Central Processing Centre (RACPC), St. Mark's Road, Bengaluru, i.e., (1) www.sbi.co.in, (2) <https://www.msfccommerce.com/auctionhome/ibap/index.jsp>

Sd/- Authorised Officer
State Bank of India, RACPC, St. Mark's Road, Bengaluru.
Place: Bengaluru
Date: 06.04.2023